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JOURNAL

OF THE

CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OF THE

DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA,

WHICH ASSEMBLED IN THE TOWN OF PETERSBURG,

On the 17th of May, 1837.

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RICHMOND:

PRINTED BY B. R. WREN,

Southern Churchman office.

1837.

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form during the past year, I may be allowed without improperly intruding domestic afflictions on your notice, to allude to an event, which has deprived me of my best earthly friend, and the Church of one who was alive to every thing which affected her welfare. But few among you are able to estimate the loss which I have sustained. But if through God's abounding grace, the bereavement shall minister to my spiritual improvement, and to the increase of my labors for the advancement of his kingdom, I shall then be enabled the more truly to say, "God's will and not mine be done." That such may be the happy result of my affliction, let me ask an interest in all your prayers.

I now proceed to a narrative of Episcopal acts during the past year. After leaving you in Fredericksburg, I was detained for two months in the county of Hanover, by the illness which preceded the event just referred to, during which time I supplied the place of the Rev. Mr. Bowers, who very kindly to me, and most acceptably to my people, took mine in Norfolk.

During this period I visited Richmond at the request of Bishop Moore, and preached on the occasion of the ordination of the Rev. Mr. Parks, who has since succeeded me in the Church at Norfolk.

Early in August I went to my former residence in Frederick county, now Clarke county, and during the time of my visit there, preached repeatedly to my old and much beloved parishioners, whom I found much pleased with their present pastor. On one occasion I administered confirmation to two young persons. I also preached at Battletown and Winchester.

On the 1st of September I set out on a short excursion through some of the counties lying below the Ridge, preaching at Upperville that day; at Cool-spring the next, where three were confirmed. On Saturday and Sunday I met with several of the brethren at Warrenton, and preached once on each day. On Monday I went in company with Mr. Lemmon to Brentsville in Prince William county, where I preached twice and Mr. Lemmon once. Wednesday and Thursday were spent at Haymarket, where I preached twice, baptized three children and administered the communion. On Thursday night I preached at Aldie, and on the following Saturday and Monday at Battletown, administering the communion and baptizing two children.

Towards the close of this month I went to Alexandria in the expectation of meeting with the managers of our Education Society, on business relating to the seminary, but through some mistake they did not assemble. While there I preached once in Christ Church. On the following Sunday I preached twice in Warrenton, on my way to some counties in the middle district of the State, which I desired to visit before winter set in. On Monday I went to Culpeper, accompanied by Mr. Lemmon, who preached that night. I preached the following day. On Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, I preached at Orange Court House. On Friday morning, I reached Walker's church, with the intention of preaching, but finding the Rev. Mr. Andrews, agent of the Colonization Society, and the Rev. Mr. Minor, our Missionary to Africa, already there, preferred to let them present the claims of their interesting and kindred institutions, and merely bore my testimony to their importance.

On Saturday, I crossed the mountain with the design of consecrating the new church on Buck Mountain the following day. A steady rain during the day prevented the execution of it. On Monday and Tuesday, I performed divine service at one of the places where the Rev. Mr. Christian officiates, called Maupin's church on the Cove, where I confirmed fifteen persons.

On Wednesday, I preached at Lebanon; on Thursday, at North Garden. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, were spent in Charlottesville, on the last of which days ten persons were confirmed, and Mr. Christian admitted to Priest's orders. On the evening of that day, I preached to the young men at the University, in the room appropriated to religious services and was much gratified by the number and attention of those who assembled on the occasion.

On Monday, I visited another place in the county of Albemarle, where Mr. Christian officiates, called Mountain Plain, where I preached and confirmed six persons. Tuesday and Wednesday were spent at a new church, near Rock-fish Gap, in Nelson county, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Wilmer. On the first day, the church was consecrated and eight persons confirmed, and on the second, the Lord's supper administered. On Thursday, the new church at North Garden, which is also under the care of the Rev. Mr. Wilmer, was consecrated and five persons confirmed. On Friday, I preached at the Green Mountain, and confirmed six.

On Saturday, I proceeded to Fluvanna, and reaching Gen. Cocke's that evening, preached the following day at a place of worship a few miles distant from his house, to a large and attentive congregation, but few of whom, however, were attached to, or acquainted with, the services of our Church. The Rev. Mr. Doughan was about to perform occasional duty at that place.

I proceeded from thence to Goochland, and preached at Cartersville, on the opposite side of the river, on Wednesday, where I was met by the Rev. Mr. Cooke, of Hanover, who came to conduct me to some congregations under his charge.

It was at Cartersville that I took leave of my young friend and brother, Mr. Minor, who had been with me since our first meeting in Albemarle, and who had always, at the close of my discourses and ministrations, presented the subject of his African Mission to the assembled people, and not without deeply interesting many hearts and obtaining considerable contributions. I have been pleased, also, to hear, in my subsequent tour through other parishes which he visited, that whether he spoke from the pulpit, or in private families conversed on a topic so dear to his heart, he never failed to make warm friends to himself and his cause, who will, in time to come, encourage and support it by their prayers and offerings. May the Master whom he serves ever be with him to guard and bless him and his associates, and make them instruments of great good to that benighted land.

On the day after our meeting at Cartersville, I preached at Petersville, in Powhatan, and on the next day, at Goochland Court House. It was my intention to have gone further down the river, and spent Saturday and Sunday at Manakin town, or the neighborhood, where Mr. Cooke has been engaged in raising up a congregation for the last two years, but circumstances proving unfavorable to the collection of the neighbors at this time, I went over to an association in Hanover, where I found several of our brethren assembled. I spent two days with them at Trinity church, and on the Sabbath confirmed thirteen persons.

From thence, passing through Richmond, I went down to Norfolk, where I preached twice on the following Sabbath. On my arrival in Norfolk, I soon became happily confirmed in the hope and belief which I had cherished for some time, that in the Rev. Mr. Parks, who had for some months been acting as my assistant, I had found a brother into whose hands I could safely confide the charge of a congregation which had been greatly endeared to my heart during a pastoral connexion of the last two years. I had been becoming more and more convinced each year, that it was impossible for me, with comfort to my own mind or satisfaction to others, to discharge those Episcopal duties which Bishop Moore and the Diocese wished at my hands, in connexion with any pastoral charge, especially with one so large and responsible, as that of Christ church, Norfolk. I therefore determined to avail myself of the present favorable opportunity and resign my rectorship, and henceforth give myself entirely to the Diocese at large. My resignation was immediately followed by the unanimous election of Mr. Parks, and subsequently by the choice of Mr. Atkinson as his assistant.

On the week after this, I visited Suffolk, where I preached twice, and on the Saturday and Sunday following, preached in the Donation church, in Princess Ann, where I baptized three adults. In Princess Ann, our congre-

gations, by the operation of many causes which it is needless to mention, are much reduced in numbers. Still we must not forget, that it is the duty both of the Bishops and other ministers to endeavor to strengthen the things that remain, and to attend even to the waste places and desolations of Zion. There are some interesting families and individuals fondly attached to our services to be found in places, where it is difficult to obtain a regular supply of ministerial offices, who would be thankful for such occasional ministrations as the neighboring clergymen can afford. Before I left Norfolk, I admitted to the order of Deacons, Mr. Thomas Atkinson, on which occasion the Rev. Mr. Parks preached, and Mr. Mann, Mr. Croes and Mr. Wingfield assisted.

On the 21st of November, in company with Mr. Mann, I went over to the Eastern Shore. On the 22d, we reached Accomac county and for five days in succession, Mr. Mann and myself preached alternately, each morning and evening, in the churches of Pungoteague and St. James, and in the villages of Onancock and Drummond town. Here I baptized one adult, ten infants, and confirmed seven persons.

On Monday, the 28th, we came back to Northampton, where Mr. Mann and myself preached alternately for five days and nights, on one of the days at Hunger's church and at other times at Eastville. Here I confirmed four persons, and Mr. Mann presented the claims of the Education Society, as he had done in a more private way in Accomac.

I cannot take leave of this parish without mention of a circumstance which has recently occurred, in relation to it, which deserves to be noticed. More than one hundred and seventy-five years ago, a pious individual bequeathed to the Church of Northampton, for the benefit of its minister, in all time to come, a valuable estate in land. The Church has ever since enjoyed the benefit of the same, in its successive ministers, without even the insinuation of a doubt as to its right. Within the last eighteen months, the Rev. Mr. Gunter, who had been the minister of the parish and the occupant of the glebe for some years, departed this life and has been succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Jackson. A claim, however, has been, at this late period, set up by the Overseers of the poor in that county, under the law for the sale of the glebes, and this property was actually offered for sale by them. The Vestry of the Church, of course, interposed in a legal manner to arrest it, and the matter is now to be tried by judicial tribunals of the State. That such a violation of one of the most sacred rights of man—that of disposing of his property—will be permitted, we cannot allow ourselves to suppose. That it should ever be thus attempted is matter of deep mortification.

We left Northampton on Tuesday, and reached Norfolk that night. On Thursday, Mr. Mann and myself went to Old Point, where I preached at night to a very considerable number of the officers and soldiers, with their families, and where I baptized one child. On Friday, we proceeded to York, where Mr. Mann preached in the evening, at the house of old General Nelson, which is still in possession of his descendants.

On the next day, I preached at Abington church in Gloucester county, and on the two following days at Ware church, where I confirmed four persons and where Mr. Mann addressed the congregation in the behalf of the Education Society. I also took this opportunity of visiting Matthews county, preaching at the Court House, and staying all night at the hospitable mansion of Col. Tompkins. On Thursday evening, we crossed over to Williamsburg, where I preached on the following morning. The day being inclement there were no other services until Saturday, when Mr. Smith, from Smithfield, preached in the morning and Mr. Cole in the evening. On the Sabbath, all the duties devolved on me. I preached three times to large and very attentive congregations. The communion was administered in the morning to nearly all our members in that place, who seemed rejoiced to have an opportunity of partaking of an ordinance of which they had been deprived for some time. I was particularly pleased at the numerous attendance and very correct deport-

ment of the young men of the place and college during the whole day, but particularly in the evening, when I addressed myself more entirely to young men. Our friends in Williamsburg appear to be very solicitous for the services of some suitable minister of the Church. Hitherto they have been unsuccessful in all their efforts to this end. May God speedily send them a pastor after his own heart.

On Monday, I crossed the river at Jamestown, and landed at Mrs. Falcon's in Surry county. Preached the day following at Surry Court House, and staid that night at Bacon Castle—the ancient seat of the celebrated man whose name it still bears. On the day following, I proceeded to Smithfield, where I preached three times, confirmed two persons and baptized one child. The Rev. Mr. Jackson, from the Eastern Shore, and the Rev. Mr. Northam, from Prince George, also preached. On Friday, I preached at an old church in the Isle of Wight called Chuck-a-tuck church, which is about to be repaired, and where the Rev. Mr. Smith expects to officiate regularly. I proceeded that evening to Suffolk with the Rev. Mr. Keeling, and reached Norfolk the next day. The following was Christmas day, and truly it was a joyful day to many hearts. The house was full to overflowing. The hearts of God's ministers and people rejoiced at the sight of twenty, who surrounded the altar to receive the Apostolic rite of confirmation, and thus be admitted to the holy communion. They who were added to the church were such as we trust will be saved.

On the Tuesday after Christmas, I left Norfolk and came up the James River as far as Brandon, in Prince George county, the seat of Mr. George Harrison. I was much pleased on the evening of that day, to be invited into a warm and comfortable house adjoining his establishment, and to be accompanied to the same by himself and other members of his household, where I found a large collection of his servants ready to receive such religious instruction as I should feel disposed to give. I was much gratified in spending an hour with them in exercises which seemed to interest them and to awaken the gratitude of their hearts. It is the custom of Mr. Harrison and his brother, who lives near to him, to assemble their servants at a small church, built by themselves, between their plantations, on every other Sabbath, and to procure the services of a faithful preacher of the gospel for their sole benefit. May they receive the assurance of God's favor towards this work, in the abundance of his grace vouchsafed to their own hearts, as well as the hearts of their servants, and in the humility, obedience and fidelity of their servants, may they have the fullest proof that the religion of Christ, properly taught and truly received, can be productive of nothing but good.

On the following day, I went to the church at Cabin Point and preached. Some repairs are about to be made to this old and still durable building, which will render it comfortable at all seasons. The Rev. Mr. Northam is engaged in this parish, and seems disposed to make active exertion for its prosperity. It is proposed to repair another church—called Merchants' Hope—where I preached the next day, and to have alternate services at the two places.

On Friday morning, I reached Petersburg, where I spent three days in the performance of religious services in conjunction with the Rev. Mr. Parks, who had come there to receive Priest's orders. It fell to my lot to preach four times while there, and to admit Mr. Parks to the sacred order of the ministry on the Sabbath morning, at which time he was presented by the Rev. Mr. Bartlett. On the Sabbath morning and evening, our congregations were large. I must not omit to mention that Mr. Minor here met with us, and that on one evening a meeting was called to present his interesting cause to the Church in Petersburg. Had there been a full attendance, it is not doubted but that much more would have been contributed to it. Small as the meeting was, something more than an hundred dollars was collected.

On the Monday after these services, I went to Richmond, and on Tuesday,

proceeded to fulfil my appointments in Charles City. The severity of the weather and other circumstances prevented the expected meetings in that county, and I could only have a small meeting at Berkly, the residence of Mr. Harrison. On Friday, I passed on to New Kent, and reached the house of Col. Macon, which is a few miles distant from St. Peter's church, one of our oldest and most venerable temples. It was built in the year 1700, and its walls are still perfect. Its interior has been much altered and is not now accommodated, as formerly, to the worship and ordinances of our Church. I preached here two days, and on the Sabbath administered the holy communion. At the altar of this church it was, that the Father of his country was united in the holy estate of matrimony, to the excellent woman of his choice; and here, perhaps, may they have both knelt together and received at other times the memorials of the Saviour's love. But few families in this neighborhood still adhere to the Church of their fathers. It is not known that there has been a resident minister here since the revolution. I proceeded on Monday to Hanover, and tarried there one day. Thence I passed on through Fredericksburg to Alexandria, where I spent the Sabbath, preaching in each of our churches. I spent a day also at the Seminary, and addressed to the students thereof some exhortations. I proceeded from Alexandria to Frederick, where I continued somewhat stationary for two months. During that time, I preached each Sabbath either at Millwood, Middletown, Winchester or Berryville. On Easter Sunday, I admitted the Rev. Mr. Stringfellow and my son, R. K. Meade, to the order of Priests, and at that time confirmed four persons and baptized one child.

On Easter Monday, I set out on my present tour. I reached Culpeper Court House on Tuesday evening, and preached that night. On the following Friday morning I reached Charlottesville and preached. On the next day, I consecrated the church at Buck Mountain, which I was prevented from doing the last fall by bad weather. Here I confirmed nine persons. On Sunday, I preached three times in Charlottesville and baptized one adult. The church was very full each time, especially at night, when I preached to the young men. The attendance of the young men of the place and the University and their whole deportment, here also deserves to be mentioned as being every thing that a minister could wish. If their hearts were only duly affected by the word preached, what might not the Church of God and the country expect from such a goodly number of well educated young men. On the Tuesday morning after this, I found myself about fifty miles from Charlottesville, at an old church in Buckingham called Goodwin's church, more than an hundred years old and in a very ruinous condition. There was, however, notwithstanding the badness of the weather, a considerable assembly, and I found that there was a strong disposition to repair it and to have regular services. This I of course encouraged, and think that arrangements will be made to have divine service once in each month. Notice had been given that there would be services on Wednesday and Thursday, at St. Peter's church, about twenty-four miles further on in Buckingham, but on reaching the neighborhood the weather was so inclement as to prevent it on the first day. On the second, we were cheered by a bright sun and were enabled to meet together in the house of God. Two only were confirmed on this occasion.

My next stage was to Calloway's church, in Nelson county, where I preached on Saturday, and on the following day, at the new church, where one only was confirmed. On Monday, I preached at New Glasgow, confirming one person; on Tuesday, at St. Matthew's church; on Thursday, at Pedlar Mills, confirming three. They are about to erect a new church at this place and hope its speedy completion.

On the following day, I crossed the river and entered Lynchburg, where I spent two days,—preached three times and confirmed three persons. The Rev. Mr. Page and Mr. Cobbs also preached on these days. On Saturday, in company with Mr. Cobbs, I went to St. Stephen's, where I preached and

confirmed nine persons. On the following day, preached at Trinity and confirmed three. On Monday, I preached at Bethel, near the residence of the Rev. Mr. Sale and one of his places of preaching. Here I confirmed three. On Tuesday, I preached at Liberty, the congregation being composed chiefly of officers, who postponed their exercises until a later hour in order to attend divine service. I also baptized an adult and a child in this place. On the following day, I preached six miles from Liberty, at another station of the Rev. Mr. Sale. On Thursday night, I reached Salem, in Botetourt, and preached there on that evening and the next morning, confirming two persons. The Rev. Mr. Wharton resides in this place and preaches at Fincastle, and also at a church eight miles distant from Salem. To the former place, I went on Saturday morning, and preached there both morning and evening to good congregations. On the next morning, though very inclement, the house was full. The sick and the aged could not be prevented from satisfying the desire of their hearts in partaking of services in which their souls took delight. One person was confirmed and the Lord's Supper was administered. The foundation of an excellent and handsome church was begun while I was there. The individuals and families of our Church in that region are kind and generous and will not suffer their minister to want, and he will preach faithfully to them, and God will bless both him and them. By considerable exertion, I was enabled to meet my appointment in Campbell, about sixty miles from Fincastle, so as to preach at St. John's church, on Tuesday morning, where I preached and confirmed two persons. On the following day, I preached at Hill's Creek meeting house and confirmed one person. On Thursday, I preached at St. Matthew's; on Friday, at Pittsylvania Court House, confirming one; on Saturday and Sunday, at Halifax Court House, confirming two. On Monday, I consecrated a new church at Meadeville, in Halifax county, and preached on the occasion. On Tuesday and Wednesday, preached at the Brick church, confirming three persons. On Thursday, I consecrated a new church in Charlotte county, preached and confirmed four persons. On Friday, I preached at the City church in Mecklenburg, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and the next morning reached Boydton, where services had been appointed for three successive days. The Rev. Mr. Grammer and Mr. Dresser were present and took part in the duties of the occasion. I preached three times to very full and attentive audiences. The contiguity of the College to this place furnished an opportunity to a number of interesting young men who are pursuing their studies at this seat of learning to attend our services. They came each day in great numbers, (free permission being allowed them,) and seemed to be much gratified by the services of the occasion. Sunday morning, the rite of confirmation was administered to five persons. On Sunday afternoon, a discourse was addressed entirely to the young men, when great numbers from the College and village were present and conducted themselves in a manner becoming the occasion. On Monday, besides the usual services, the sacrament was administered, when the church was again full. Having no church of our own in this village, the Presbyterian and Methodist churches were kindly offered and thankfully received. It is believed that an Episcopal church will ere long be erected in this place, as a considerable number of individuals and families attached to our communion live in it or near enough to it to render it a convenient site.

On Monday evening, after the close of our services in Boydton, I came on my journey so as to reach St. Paul's church in Lunenburg, where I preached, confirmed two persons and baptized five children. On Thursday, I preached again in Lunenburg, at St. John's church. The churches in Lunenburg are now without a minister, their former much beloved pastor having removed to another part of the Diocese. The zeal of our little flock in this place and the field of usefulness opened will, I am sure, not leave it destitute very long.

On Friday, I found myself in Lawrenceville, in the parish of the Rev. Mr. Grammer. I was relieved from service on that day by the presence and

preaching of some of the brethren on their way to the Convention, but preached there on Saturday, when I baptized the child of the Rev. Mr. Grammer and confirmed four persons. The residence of Mr. Grammer in this place, in consequence of the destruction of his former dwelling by fire, promises, I think, increased usefulness to his ministry. On Sunday morning, I consecrated a new church, by the name of Wilkin's chapel, in the county of Brunswick, and on that occasion baptized one child.

On the following day, I reached Sapony church in Dinwiddie, which is still under the care of Mr. Grammer, and where I confirmed five persons. I never visit this old and venerable house without experiencing unusual emotions at thought of that faithful servant of God, (the Rev. Mr. Jarratt,) who so long and so eloquently preached the gospel within its walls, whose memory is so justly dear to us all, and who is still spoken of with delight by some who yet remain to tell to their children and to the ministers who now stand where once he preached, how they used to hang with rapture on the accents of his lips. Be it remembered by us all, that it was he who, in the very darkest period of our Church in Virginia, expressed the strongest confidence that she would rise again under the fostering care of Heaven, and, by means of a faithful ministry, be a praise to God in our land. Few there were who had faith to believe this at the time it was uttered, but it is our happiness to witness, in some encouraging degree, the fulfilment of this prophecy. At the time of his death the Church seemed to be expiring. Few and faint were the voices heard from our desks and pulpits—few and faint the responses made to them. Now more than seventy ministers faithfully declare the word of life, in more than one hundred and fifty stations, scattered through the Diocese of Virginia. Besides those valuable auxiliaries from afar, who have come to our help, God has raised up and is still raising up, from among ourselves, effective agents in this good work. Occasionally the blessed Spirit calls one from his farm, another from his merchandise, and a third from the hall of justice, and lays necessity upon him to preach the gospel of Christ to perishing sinners. The effect of this supply of our churches with pious and well educated men has been manifest and great. Not only have many lost sinners been reclaimed, but infidelity has received a sensible check, if not a total overthrow, among those families where their influence is felt. He who addresses you can well remember, when among the youth and gentlemen of Virginia infidelity was general, and instead of being ashamed to avow itself, gloried in being known as such.

How different it is at the present time, we all know from our observation and intercourse with society. I am happy, also, to say, that the unreasonable prejudices which have hitherto existed in the minds of many pious persons, in relation to our Church and ministry, are gradually passing away, and the candid, who have an opportunity of judging, not only concede that our doctrines are sound and evangelical, our prayers most holy and fervent, but that our ministers are zealous and faithful, and our people, as a body, certainly, not less pious than others. We cannot, therefore, but believe that a sure foundation is laid for a work, which will, though not rapidly, yet certainly, increase more and more in all future time.

In my late tour, I have preached at places never visited before, and have consecrated six new churches. As many more are now in progress, or are already completed, and will be consecrated, if God should spare my life, before the next Convention.

It becomes me, in drawing this communication to a close, to make some allusion to my future plans for the more effectual discharge of the duty of Assistant Bishop.

On communicating to Bishop Moore my intention to decline any parochial charge in future and requesting his advice as to the best disposal of my time, he expressed a wish that I would, hereafter, consider the whole Diocese as

the field of my labors, leaving it to himself, of course, to revisit, as he might think proper, any of those parts most convenient to him.

On examining this extensive field, by such lights as my previous experience afforded, I found that to visit each congregation in the Diocese and perform the episcopal duties required, will occupy about twelve months of uninterrupted travelling and preaching. Of course, to visit one half of the Diocese each year will occupy six months, besides those occasional visits which particular places may call for, and which may require two months more, leaving only four months, for those private studies which are impracticable during public service, but which are indispensable to prepare the mind for the right discharge of the very high and responsible duties of the Episcopate.

It is my purpose, by God's blessing, to adopt this course for the future, and the congregations may henceforward expect an episcopal visit every other year, while God shall give me ability to perform the service.

WILLIAM MEADE,
Assistant Bishop of Virginia.

Resolved, That Rev. J. Grammer, Rev. E. C. McGuire and Col. Burwell be a Committee to consider and report some plan for providing suitable compensation for the performance of Episcopal services.

The Convention suspended its proceedings for the purpose of attending Divine service, when prayers were read by the Rev. Richard K. Meade, and a sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Parks.

The Parochial Reports were read and referred.

The Convention then adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1837.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of the proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

The following Lay Delegates presented their certificates and took their seats:

Warren T. Taliaferro, Ware Parish, Gloucester.

Wm. H. Macfarland, Monumental Church, Richmond.

Theodore S. Garnett, St. Ann's Parish, Essex.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Dresser, the Convention proceeded to the consideration of such of the revised Canons as were postponed by the last Convention. The 7th Canon as reported by the Committee and the substitute therefor, offered by the Rev. Wm. F. Lee, were read from pages 20—22 of Journal of last Convention, and after some discussion, were referred to a special Committee, consisting of Wm. H. Macfarland, Esquire, Rev. Mr. Stringfellow, Rev. Mr. Nelson, Rev. Mr. Atkinson and Gen. S. B. Lewis, with directions to prepare and report such a Canon, as in their opinion would meet the views of the Convention.

The 8th Canon was adopted. (The Canons will be found in Appendix.)

The Convention suspended its proceedings for the purpose of attending Divine service, when prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Northam, and a sermon preached by the Rev. Wm. G. Jackson.

The Rev. John P. McGuire, from the committee on the Treasurer's Account, made the following report, which was accepted:

The committee on the Treasurer's Account, report, that they have examined the same and find it correct. The various items are sustained by proper vouchers; and the balance in the Treasury is \$21 48½.

Robert Greenhow, in account with Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the Diocese of Virginia,

1836.		DR.	
May 21—	To balance on hand per account rendered,		\$90 58
" "	Received from Hilary Baker, Secretary, cash,	\$610 00	
" "	" In sundry receipts for payments made by him and charged below,	426 62½	
			1036 62½
Aug. 16—	To Hilary Baker, Secretary, viz: received of him in cash,	76 19	
	Received in an order on Wm. H. Hubbard, Treasurer of Monumental church, Richmond,	30 00	
	And said Treasurer's account for payments made,	10 00	
			116 19
			<u>\$1243 39½</u>

1836.		SUPRA CR.	
May 21—	By Bishop Meade's annual allowance,	\$300 00	
" "	" " travelling expenses,	50 00	
" "	By Rev. John Grammer's expenses incurred to and from Baltimore, in obedience to a call from Bishop Moore, on ecclesiastical concerns,	34 12½	
" "	By Rev. A. Empie, D. D., for like expenses,	32 50	
" "	By paid Door Keeper of Convention,	10 00	
		426 62½	
" 25—	By Bishop Moore's annual allowance,	300 00	
" 31—	By Rev. John Cole's travelling expenses in 1834-5 and 6, to Norfolk, Portsmouth and Richmond, on ecclesiastical business,	44 00	
June 1—	By paid J. C. Walker, by Bishop Moore's order, for printing two quires of Circulars, as per bill stated,	2 50	
" 2—	By paid Mr. Howell, by order of Bishop Moore, for 12 days' hack hire,	42 00	
July 1—	By paid J. C. Walker, per order of Secretary, for printing and furnishing 1800 copies of Journal for 1836,	168 75	
" 7—	By paid Bishop Moore's expenses to Port Royal and Fredericksburg, in May, 1836,	16 38	
" "	By paid his Postage account from 1835 to July, 1836,	16 37½	
" 29	" his expense incurred on visit to Alexandria, for the ordination of seven candidates,	21 25	
" "	By paid for copying papers for a clerical investigation,	4 28	
Aug. 14—	By paid Hilary Baker, Secretary, for stage fare to and from Convention, in Fredericksburg, in May last,	10 00	
Sept. 5—	By paid Rev. Wm. F. Lee, by order from H. Baker, Secretary, for putting up Journals for distribution,	2 50	
" "	By J. C. Walker, for printing done by order of Convention,	10 00	
Dec. 29—	By Bishop Moore, for travelling expense	50 00	
1837.			
Feb. 13—	By Bishop Meade, for travelling expense from 1836 to this time,	\$65 00	
" "	And for postage incurred,	15 12½	
		80 12½	
April	By paid Bishop Moore's travelling expenses to and from Petersburg,	16 00	
"	By paid postages from May, 1836, to 1837,	10 12½	
		26 12½	
			1221 91½
			<u>\$21 48½</u>

Balance in the hands of the Treasurer,

Errors Excepted.

May 10, 1837.

ROBERT GREENHOW, *Treasurer.*

The Rev. J. H. Wingfield, from the committee on the Accounts of the Treasurer of the Missionary Society, made the following report, which was accepted:

The committee appointed on the Treasurer's Accounts of the Missionary Society of the Diocese of Virginia, report, that they have examined the said Accounts, and find them correct and sustained by proper vouchers. The funds now on hand, including three shares of the stock of the Farmers' Bank of Virginia, estimated at \$95 per share, amount to \$367 68.

The Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society of the Diocese of Virginia, in account with George M. Carrington, their Treasurer.

1836. Dr.	
May 21—To cash paid Rev. Josias Clapham, appropriated to him, per Receipt No. 1,	\$50 00
“ 22—To cash paid Rev. Wm. N. Ward, in full of one year's appropriation to him, per Receipt No. 2,	25 00
Nov'r 3—To cash paid Rev. J. Martin, per Mr. H. Baker, appropriated to him, this day, per Receipt No. 2,	50 00
“ “ To cash paid Rev. M. L. Chevers, per the Rt. Rev. Wm. Meade, appropriated to him, this day, per Receipt No. 4,	50 00
1837.	
Jan'y 17—To cash paid Rev. Wm. N. Ward, per Rev. Wm. F. Lee, in part of appropriation of November 3d, 1836, per Receipt No. 5,	50 00
“ “ To cash paid Rev. Charles Page, per Mr. H. Neilson, appropriation to him of November 3d, 1836, per Receipt No. 6,	100 00
April 19—To cash paid Rev. E. Christian, per the Rev. Wm. H. Hart, appropriation of November 3d, 1836, per Receipt No. 7,	100 00
“ 22—To cash paid Rev. Wm. N. Ward, per the Rev. Wm. H. Hart, in part of appropriation of November 3d, 1836, per Receipt No. 8,	25 00
May 16—To balance in hand this day,	82 68
	<hr/> \$532 68 <hr/>
1836. Cr.	
May 16—By balance in the hands of the Treasurer this day, per settlement,	\$23 66
“ 21—By cash received from the Prayer Book, Tract and Missionary Society of Williamsburg, per Dr. Empie,	20 00
“ “ By cash received from Trinity Church, Portsmouth, per the Rev. Mr. Wingfield, weekly offerings,	24 00
“ 30—By cash received from St. James' Parish, Mecklenburg, per Mr. John Nelson, weekly offerings,	5 00
Nov'r 3—By cash received, a widow's mite, being her weekly offerings to the 1st June last, per the Rt. Rev. R. C. Moore,	3 25
“ 21—By cash received from Christ Church, Richmond, weekly offerings for August, September and October, 1836, per Rev. G. Woodbridge,	33 77
1837.	
Jan'y 17—By cash received of Mr. John Nelson, per the Rev. Wm. F. Lee,	5 00
“ “ By cash received, dividends for July, 1836, and for January, 1837, on six shares Bank stock,	54 00
Feb'y 15—By amount of sale three shares stock of the Bank of Virginia, at \$118,	354 00
Mar. 24—By cash received of an Episcopalian of the county of Botetourt, by the hands of the Rev. Wm. H. Hart,	5 00
April 21—By cash received of Mrs. Wm. O. Goode, of the county of Mecklenburg, by hands of Mrs. T. R. Price,	5 00
	<hr/> \$532 68 <hr/>
1837.	
May 16—By balance, as above stated,	82 68
“ To which may be added three shares in the stock of the Farmers' Bank of Virginia, at \$95,	285 00
Available funds of the Society,	<hr/> \$367 68 <hr/>

Respectfully submitted,

G. M. CARRINGTON, *Treasurer.*

Leave of absence was granted to Hodijah Meade, Esq., a Lay Delegate from Raleigh Parish, Amelia.

The Rev. Mr. Nelson presented a preamble and resolutions on the subject of the fund for the support of Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen, which were read and referred to a committee, consisting of Rt. Rev. Bishop Meade, Rev. Mr. Grammer, Rev. Mr. Nelson, Rev. Mr. Parks and Rev. Mr. Mann.

The Rev. Charles Mann made the following

REPORT:

In obedience to the direction of the last Convention of this Diocese, I proceeded to the Maryland Convention, and attended the meeting of the "Corporation for the relief of Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church," presenting the subject of my mission, and asking any aid their Act of Incorporation might enable them to give in securing the funds belonging to the sister Society of this Diocese. The kindest feeling was expressed towards our Society, and a pledge given to do all which the law would justify them in performing, to secure the objects presented by this body. Doubts, however, being entertained as to the ability of that Society to act as Trustees for any other, at my request they referred the subject to three gentlemen of high standing at the bar in Baltimore, resting the decision of the question on the opinion they might give, and authorizing the President and Secretary of their Society to act under that decision. By a communication subsequently received from the Secretary, I was informed, that a decision of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, at its session in June last, on a case of precisely similar character, precluded all hope of our receiving from the Corporation of that State the aid we required—that decision confining all incorporated Societies to the objects for which their charters were granted.

Very respectfully,

C. MANN, *Chairman of Committee.*

May 20, 1837.

The Rev. Mr. Dresser made the following

REPORT:

The committee to whom was referred the Account of the Treasurer of the fund for the relief of the Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen, report, that they have examined the same and find it to be correct.

The Fund for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Deceased Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia, with John Hooff, Treasurer,

1836.	Dr.	
May 14—To balance due the Treasurer, per account,		\$ 24
Sept. 16—To cash paid the Rev. Chas. Mann, for expenses to Fredericktown, Md.		11 37
Oct. 1—To cash transmitted Miss Maria Heath,		30 00
1837.		
April 20—To cash paid for eight shares of Farmers' Bank of Alexandria, at \$40,		320 00
Balance to annual account,		131 09
		<hr/>
		\$492 70
		<hr/>
1836.	Cr.	
Aug. 12—By 6 months' interest on loan of \$120,		\$3 60
Sept. 16—By cash received of Rev. Charles Mann, for subscription,		20 00
Oct. 1—By cash for dividend in Farmers' Bank of Alexandria, on 123 shares,		153 75
" 26—By cash for six months' interest on loan of \$1600,		48 00
1837.		
Mar. 29—By cash for six months' interest on loan of \$120,		3 60
April 1—By cash for dividend on 123 shares Farmers' Bank of Alexandria,		153 75
" 23—By cash for six months' interest on loan of \$1600,		48 00
May 8—By cash received of Rev. Wm. F. Lee, subscription,		20 00
		<hr/>
		\$450 70

Amount carried forward,

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>		\$450 70
May 13—By	cash for fourteen months' interest, to 5th May, 1837, on loan of \$600 to Education Society,	42 00
		<u>\$492 70</u>
" "	By balance in Treasurer's hands,	<u>131 09</u>
<i>E. E.</i>		<u>JOHN HOOFF, Treasurer.</u>

The funds are as follows, viz:

131 shares of Farmers' Bank of Alexandria stock, at par,	\$6,550 00
1 share Bank of Virginia, at par,	100 00
Notes and bonds, bearing interest of 6 per cent,	2,320 00
Cash on hand,	131 09
5 shares Bank of Alexandria stock	
	<u>\$9,101 09</u>

And then the Convention adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY, 9 A. M. MAY 20, 1837.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Rev. W. G. H. Jones attended and took his seat as a member of this Convention.

The minutes of the proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Meade presented the following report and resolutions, which were read and adopted:

The committee to whom the preamble and resolutions concerning the fund for Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen were referred, report the following as a substitute for the same:

Whereas, a certain fund, called the fund of the Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen in Virginia, has providentially come into the possession of the Convention of Virginia,—Therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That in order to effect the pious object of the donors and subscribers to this fund, the Convention recommends to the Clergy of this Diocese, that they form themselves into a Society for the benefit of Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen, after the example of other Dioceses, and in order to encourage them so to do, this Convention resolves to pay to such Society the annual interest of the above mentioned fund: *Provided*, That the regulations and future conduct of the Society shall be such as to meet the approbation of the Convention.

2. *Resolved*, That this fund be continued in the hands of the standing Committee of the Diocese, subject to the directions and order of the Convention at all times.

3. *Resolved*, That the Clergymen who heretofore subscribed to this fund shall be allowed to withdraw the amount paid by them with interest, or if preferring to unite themselves to the Society, if hereafter formed, be credited with the same by such Society.

4. *Resolved*, That Mr. John Hooff, of Alexandria, be continued as Treasurer of the said fund.

5. *Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the Treasurer to present, annually, to the standing Committee, a statement of the condition of the funds, which statement shall form a part of the annual report of the proceedings of that Committee.

6. *Resolved*, That nothing in the above shall interfere with the claims of any who are entitled to annuities out of the same fund.

The following report was received and accepted:

The Trustees of the Theological Seminary beg leave to submit to the Convention the following

REPORT:

The general condition of this institution is prosperous. The means and the facilities which it now offers for a sound and thorough theological education, are such as to call upon the Church for grateful acknowledgments to God.

During the past year the number of students has been about thirty; being nearly a third greater than that of the preceding year.

A report has been received from only one of the professors by this Board; but from this, and from other facts in our possession, there is reason to conclude that the habits of study, and the proficiency of the students, have been such as to meet the expectations and wishes of the Trustees and Faculty of the institution. At the close of the last session, six of the students were ordained by our venerable Bishop; and a larger number will probably receive Holy Orders at the close of the present session in July.

Since the last Convention, the new professor of Biblical Literature, the Rev. Mr. Packard, has entered upon the discharge of his duties. As a scholar and a Christian, he has the entire confidence of all who know him, and as an instructor, is highly acceptable to the students.

At the last meeting of the Board, arrangements were made, which have since been successfully carried into effect, for securing increased attention to some branches of theological study, which had before been necessarily somewhat neglected.

Among the present wants of the institution, an increase of the Library is, perhaps, the principal. That a deficiency in this respect ought to be supplied as speedily as possible, must be obvious to all; and it is confidently hoped that such efforts will soon be made for this purpose, as its great importance demands.

In conclusion, the Trustees would express their sincere gratitude for the good which the institution confided to their care has already been the means of accomplishing, and their ardent hope that it will long continue a sacred fountain of learning and piety, from which shall annually issue streams that shall make glad the Church and city of our God.

In behalf of the Board,

EDWARD C. McGUIRE,
CHARLES B. DANA,
JOHN H. WINGFIELD, *Committee.*

The Rev. Mr. Nelson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Clergy of this Diocese be requested again, to bring before their congregations the claims of the Colonization Society of Virginia, on the Sunday preceding or next after the 4th of July, and make collections in aid of its funds.

The Rev. Mr. Grammer, from the Committee on the state of the Church, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on the state of the Church, beg leave to present the following

REPORT:

In contemplating the present condition of the Church in this Diocese, your Committee see but little that comes within their province to spread before you. The aspect of our affairs differs but a few shades from that presented to you at your last annual meeting. In its external condition our Zion continues prosperous. The misconceptions and ignorance and prejudice which long presented so extensive a barrier to the advancement of our Church, are still yielding to more correct views and more favorable feelings. The increasing calls for more laborers,—the organization of new parishes,—and the multiplication of churches, afford pleasing evidence of the enlargement of our borders. While an increasing attachment to our ecclesiastical system, and our liturgical services, encourages the hope that both our own members and many others, are becoming more sensible of the excellency of our polity, our doctrines and mode of worship, and of their tendency to promote good order in congregations, good morals in society, and a high tone of piety, charity,

and harmony among our members. But while the external condition of the church is thus encouraging, but little improvement can be perceived in its internal and spiritual state. There is still ground for the complaint heretofore expressed, of a comparative coldness in religious feeling, and insensibility to the sanctifying influences of the means of grace. The reports from the several parishes, with very few exceptions, furnish but little evidence of the existence of that life and earnestness as to eternal things which is all important. Although, they exhibit no positive symptoms of a relaxation in effort on the part of the clergy, and no deficiency either of faithfulness or orthodoxy in preaching the word of truth, yet they do indicate most plainly, that our ministrations have wanted that Divine unction which is essential to their wholesome influence upon the conscience. Accordingly the increase in the number of our communicants has not been proportioned to the external advancement of our Church; and it is much to be feared, that the zeal and spiritual sensibilities of our ministers and members have been much weakened by the unholy influences of that wild spirit of speculation and covetousness which has prevailed so generally through our country.

From this view of the condition of our Church, it will be seen that, while there is cause for much gratitude to God for His fostering care, there is at the same time, need for much humiliation and contrition, for more watchfulness and prayer, that the gracious influences of the Holy Spirit may be poured out more abundantly upon us.

The present is a season of trial and of danger. A reaction is taking place in society, from a state of unexampled commercial excitement and temporal prosperity, to one of greatly apprehended depression and distress. And that a mighty moral influence will be exerted, either for good or for evil, may reasonably be expected. It becomes us, therefore, in view of the demoralizing effects of the late excitements,—the depressed state of spiritual piety, and the agitated and distressed condition of the country, to humble ourselves before God, and use with increased diligence and zeal, all such means, as may, by God's blessing, revive His work and render present circumstances productive of spiritual benefits. Your Committee would, therefore, suggest to the Convention, the propriety of setting apart some early day, for the public acknowledgment of our sins before God, and the supplication of pardon for the past, and the blessing of his grace to quicken and revive his work among us. And they would especially call the attention of the members of our Church to the importance of exerting their utmost influence, in preventing and correcting the profanation of the Lord's day;—in providing, as their means will permit, for the religious instruction of our colored population;—and in fostering and increasing the means and the opportunities for Sunday School instruction. These objects appear to your Committee to claim at this time peculiar attention, and it is believed that improvement in these, will bring with it such blessing of grace and holiness, that our Church will indeed become the praise of the whole earth.

In conclusion, the Committee perceive with regret that some dissatisfaction still exists in a few of their parishes, with that portion of the 2nd Article of the Revised Constitution, which requires that the lay Delegates from the parishes shall be communicants in the Church. Deeply deploring such an effect of that measure, and that any thing should disturb the hitherto unbroken harmony of our venerable and beloved Church,—we ardently hope that this effect will give way to the healing operation of time and of religious influence; and would recommend to this Convention to cherish a fraternal spirit towards those who differ with us in opinion.

The Rev. Mr. Smith, from the Committee on Parochial Reports, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee to whom were referred the Parochial reports, beg leave to present the re-

sult of their labors. 48 of the Clergy have reported, embracing in the aggregate about 70 parishes. In 28 of these reports, there is a gain of 133; in 14, a loss of 78, principally by removals; in only one instance is there a diminution of numbers by death; and in five, neither a gain or loss. The nett gain to the communion of the Church appears, from the reports, as examined, to be only 53. In the same parishes, are found reported:—Marriages, 207; Funerals, 357; Baptisms, 580; Confirmations, 147; Communicants, 2664; Contributions to the benevolent operations of the Church, \$8438 21. The principal diminutions appear to have taken place in the towns. It is to be regretted that the Clergy will present their reports so little in unison with the form with which the Convention has so kindly furnished them, and to which their attention is invited; and that they will not abandon the practice of delaying a preparation of them until after the Convention has assembled. This haste accounts for their imperfection, and results in much inconvenience to the Committee. There is one gratifying and cheering fact pervading the reports, to wit, increased and increasing congregations, and an increased interest and attention to the truths preached.

No reports were received from Rev. Messrs. Zachariah H. Goldsmith, Alexander Jones, Charles C. Taliaferro, J. P. B. Wilmer, Josias Clapham, and Wm. Crawford.

Signed by order of the Committee,

THOMAS SMITH, *Chairman.*

Monumental Church, Richmond—Rt. Rev. R. C. Moore, Rector, Rev. William Norwood, Assistant Minister.—The Bishop reports, that his congregation is in a prosperous state. That through the blessing of the Almighty, the members are attentive to the duties of public worship, and regular in their attendance at the sanctuary; that he has obtained an Assistant, who is faithful in the discharge of ministerial duty—approved by the congregation and himself; that we have not pews sufficient for the supply of applicants, and that the Sunday school is large and increasing in numbers. Communicants, upwards of 180; Baptisms, between 30 and 40.

My Episcopal labors, since the last Convention, have been confined to the discharge of very few duties. In the month of July, 1836, I attended a meeting of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary, in Alexandria; at which place I preached in both the Churches, admitted to Holy Orders several young men, and confirmed a small number of each congregation. During the last spring, I visited Petersburg, held a confirmation, and baptized 1 adult and 12 children.

St. George's Parish, Accomack county—Ephraim Adams, Rector.—Communicants, added, 3—died, 1—present number, 36; Baptisms—adult, white, 1—infants, 11, viz: white, 9, colored, 2—total, 12; Persons confirmed, 6; Funerals, 2.

As the Rector has but recently taken charge of this Parish, he has but little to report respecting it. He entered upon the duties of the Parish about the first of April—has formed a Bible Class, in which a number of the members of the Church have taken a decided interest, and the congregations generally appear to be in a good degree interested in the subject of religion and the Church.

Shelburne Parish, Leesburg, Loudon County—George Adie, Rector.—Communicants, added, 1—removed, 16—died, 1—total, 54; Funerals, 6; number of families, 40; Baptisms, white infants, 7; Marriages, 4, amount collected for the different institutions connected with the Church, about \$120.

The Rector has nothing cheering to report respecting the spiritual condition of the congregation. The Sunday School is still an encouraging feature in the Parish.

A new and commodious Church edifice is just being completed, which, we hope, will be ready for consecration some time during the summer.

Albie and Middleburg.—Communicants, 10; died, 1; Baptisms, 1. No material change in the state of the congregations at these places.

Upperville.—Communicants, 6; removed, 3; Marriages, 1; Baptisms, 1.

The new Church edifice being erected here, we hope, will be ready for consecration during the summer.

St. Matthew's Church, Wheeling—William Armstrong, Rector.—As the Rector of this Church has not enjoyed the privilege of attending a Convention of this Diocese since his

settlement in it, and having neglected to make a report of the state of his Parish, from year to year, as required by the Canons, he would first state, that his labors in this place commenced in August, 1832. The condition of the Parish, when he entered upon his duties, was not flourishing. There was no register to which he could have access, and consequently, the number of communicants, as well as families, attached to the Church, had to be ascertained by personal inquiry on the part of the Rector. The result of his inquiries was, that 25 persons considered themselves communicants. The number of communicants which has been added is 72, making the whole number entered upon the Parish register, 97. Of these, 6 have died; 8 have removed; 1 has withdrawn, and 1 has been suspended, making the present number of communicants, 81. Of Baptisms, there have been, infants, 58—adults, 13—total, 71; Marriages, 63; number of persons confirmed by the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese and the Bishop of Ohio, 43.

The Vestry are now engaged in the erection of a new Church; the corner stone of the edifice was laid in May last, and its entire completion will be effected some time in August next. This Church, when completed, will not be excelled by any in the Diocese. Its style of architecture is Grecian Doric.

St. Paul's Church, Norfolk—Thomas Atkinson, Minister.—The Rev. Mr. Atkinson accepted the invitation to take the pastoral charge of that Church, and entered on the duties thus devolving on him, very little more than two months ago. The Church having been without a minister for several years, was, of course, in a very unsettled condition. The congregation had generally attended Christ Church, and a large portion of them taken pews there, while not a very inconsiderable number had left the town for other places of residence. There is yet a good deal of connexion in the two Churches in Norfolk, many persons owning pews in both, and in some instances receiving the communion in both, and attending either as convenience or inclination may dictate. Of those who may be considered stated communicants in St. Paul's, there are 40 in good standing, and 1 suspended. 1 has died since the Church was opened again. There have been 2 baptized, both white infants. The Minister would add, in conclusion, that he believes the wants of the Episcopal Church in Norfolk, make another place of worship, besides Christ Church, necessary, and that unless the town itself should suffer very great reverses, the Church to which he is attached, will be sustained, and, with the blessing of God, prosper.

Raleigh and Dale Parishes, Amelia and Chesterfield Counties—P. F. Berkeley, Rector.—Communicants added, 4—removed, 3—total, 32; Baptisms, infants, 6; Marriage, 1; Funerals, whites, 4—colored, 4—total, 8; number of families, 32—adults, 100—infants, 67; amount collected for the different institutions connected with the Church, \$300.

In addition to two services performed on Sunday, the Rector preaches once a month on a week day, to a Female School, near Amelia Court House. Services in behalf of the colored people are attended by increased numbers, and apparently, with increased interest. With some interruptions, from peculiar circumstances, the exercises of the Bible Classes, and the monthly meetings for Prayer, for Missions and the Education Society, have continued. A Sunday School has recently been established at Sapony Church, Dale Parish.

St. Martin's Parish, Hanover County—Wm. V. Bowers, Rector.—Communicants added, 8—died, 3—total, 58; Baptisms—adult, 1—infants, 5—total, 6; Confirmed, 11; Marriages, 3; Funerals, 5; number of families, 43; amount collected for benevolent purposes, about \$300; Sunday Schools, 2, conducted by 15 regular teachers and several others who occasionally assist. About 100 hundred scholars were reported last year; the number this year has not yet been definitely ascertained. It is hoped, however, that it may be considerably increased.

The Rector has a Bible Class, composed of 18 members; and the Missionary Concert of Prayer is observed the first Monday in each month. Meetings are held by him on Sunday afternoons for the benefit of the colored population; of this class, many attend and seem to be interested in the services, and it is hoped, that much spiritual good is imparted to them.

Since last summer, the Fork Church has been neatly repaired and remodeled, at a cost of about \$800.

In the place of services formerly held in one of the old parish churches, the Rector commenced, last fall, preaching at Hanover Court House, and so far has been encouraged with

the attendance and interest manifested. A house of worship may, probably, ere long be built for the accommodation of this congregation.

St. John's, Hampton, and the Centurion Church, Old Point, Elizabeth City Parish.—M. L. Chevers, Rector.—Communicants, added, 3—died, 1—removed, 6—total, 19; Baptisms, infants, 7; Marriages, 12; Funerals, 9.

Albemarle.—E. Christian Rector.—Communicants, added, 15—total, 43; Confirmations, 33; Baptisms, 14; Marriage, 1; Funeral, 1. One Church consecrated. Contributions have been made to the Missionary Society.

Mount Laurel Church, Antrim Parish, Halifax County.—John T. Clark, Minister.—Communicants, added, 5—total, 17; Baptism, 1 infant; Confirmations, 2; Marriages, 4; Funeral, 1; number of families, 14—adults, 33—children, 14; amount collected during the year for the different institutions of the Church, \$146 50.

On the two Sundays the Minister officiates at Mount Laurel Church he preaches also at two other places, alternately, about six miles distant, at one of which places there is some prospect of building up the Church. There is attached to the Church a small but attentive Sunday School.

St. John's Church, Moore Parish, Campbell County.—Communicants, added, 2—total, 9; Baptisms, infants, 7; Confirmations, 2; Funeral, 1; number of families, 7—adults, 14—infants, 37; amount collected, \$6.

On account of the distance from his residence, the Minister officiates at St. John's only one Sunday in the month, to small congregations, consisting mostly of children. Could an active and zealous Minister be sent to this Parish, there are abundant materials for building up the Church, but the distant and infrequent visits of the present Minister are not adequate to do it.

On the second Sunday in the month, the Minister preaches at Abbeville, in Mecklenburg County, so as to enable the Rev. Mr. Steel to preach at a Church lately erected in Charlotte County. On the evening of the same day, he preaches in a destitute neighborhood, in Halifax County, where he has some encouraging prospects that after a long time he will do some good.

Russel Parish, Bedford.—N. H. Cobbs, Rector.—Communicants, added, 10—removed, 4; died, 1—total, 72; Confirmations, 12; Baptisms of infants, 21—of adults, 2; Marriages, 10; Funerals, 4; contributed to Missions, \$112; to the Contingent Fund, \$30; to the Education Society, \$15 50.

In presenting an account of the state and condition of his Parish, the Rector feels deeply humbled in the sight of God, that so little has been done towards the advancement of Christ's kingdom upon earth. For some time during the past year, he was much discouraged from the great prevalence of worldly-mindedness; he thought he saw no fruit from his labors;—but at present he begins to hope better things. The congregations are increasing in numbers, and it is believed are exhibiting an increased sensibility to the claims of the Gospel. Owing to some peculiar circumstances, his labors among the colored people have been much interrupted; these labors will, however, be forthwith renewed and continued as usual. From no part of his ministerial labors has the Rector derived more satisfaction than from his efforts among that too much neglected race.

St. Peter's Church, Tillotson Parish, Buckingham County.—James M. Cofer, Rector.—Communicants, added, 4, (3 of whom were from another Parish)—removed, 1—withdrawn, 1—total, 35; Baptisms, infants, 3; Confirmations, 2; Marriage, 1; amount collected for benevolent objects, \$130.

The Rector of this Church has nothing of interest to report. His congregations have continued to be generally large and attentive; but he has, as yet, seen little fruit.

Services have been held once a month at Ca-Ira, Cumberland County, and at Salem Church, Buckingham; the latter place, however, will be abandoned, in future, for a more

promising field in another part of the County. The congregations at these Churches have been generally small, but attentive.

The colored people of this Parish have not been entirely neglected during the past year. Services were held for them on every Sabbath afternoon for five or six months, and would have been continued, but for the existence of circumstances which rendered a temporary suspension advisable.

Christ Church, Alexandria, D. C., Fairfax Parish—Charles B. Dana, Rector.—Communicants, added, 11, (5 of whom are from other cures)—removed, 5—died, 4—total, 121; Baptisms, adult, 1—infants, white, 16—colored, 4—total, 20; Confirmations, 6; Marriages, 4; Funerals, 11; number of families, 75; amount collected for the different institutions connected with the Church, about \$550.

Antrim Parish, Halifax County, (exclusive of Mount Laurel Church)—Charles Dresser, Rector.—Communicants, added, 2—removed, 1—total, 37; Baptisms, adult, 1—children, 12—total, 13; Marriages, 3; Funerals, 5; Confirmed, 2.

Camden Parish, Pittsylvania County—Communicants, died, 1—total, 13; Baptisms, children, 2; Confirmed, 1; Marriage, 1.

Report of the Rev. John Cooke, Hanover—The expectations which I had formed at the last Convention have not, as yet, been fully realized. Deaths and removals from the neighborhood of Peterville Church, Powhatan, have nearly destroyed our prospects. The congregation, however, has continued respectable in size and respectful in attention, and we are not without hope of ultimate success.

In consequence of the Church at Monacan Town being under repairs, I was enabled to preach there but seldom during the past summer, and the death of an active and zealous friend has, for the present, arrested the work. I have been assured, however, that it will be completed, and hope, in a short time, to resume my efforts, with renewed prospects of success.

In Louisa, we have also suffered by removals; the congregation, however, has continued uniform and attentive; but as yet, I have been unable to adopt the regular services of the Church.

At Spotsylvania Court House, our prospects are more encouraging. The congregation has been regular in its attendance and respectable in size, the services of the Church have been tolerably well sustained, and we have reasonable hopes, that ere long, we shall have a building for our use and a regularly organized congregation of worshippers.

I have officiated at 7 Funerals; 2 Marriages, and 2 Baptisms.

St. James's Parish, Northam, Goochland County—James Doughan, Minister.—Little more than six months have elapsed, since the Minister of this Parish, resumed his connexion with it. Most of that period, has been the most inclement portion of the year, and has been the cause of occasional interruptions in the regular services of the Church. The field here occupied may be emphatically called Missionary ground; embracing an extent of forty-five or fifty miles. There are three regular preaching places; two in Goochland, and one in Fluvanna; I have, also, occasionally preached in Louisa County, and in several other places. From the extent of this Parish and the remoteness of the Churches from each other, the labors of the Minister are, necessarily, much divided, and therefore, less obvious and efficient than under more favorable circumstances might be hoped for.

Some efforts have been made, with the view of erecting a new Episcopal Church in a section of the Parish in Goochland, where no Church edifice has heretofore existed. With praiseworthy liberality, some six or eight gentlemen have promptly subscribed \$1500 for this object, and the hope is confidently indulged, that we can obtain the amount yet necessary to compass the object.

Within the last six months, about \$35 have been contributed, by the congregation in Fluvanna, to the African Mission; \$39 have been contributed by others, in aid of the Education Society of the Diocese.

Number of Communicants, about 32; Baptisms, white infants, 2; Marriages, 2.

St. Peter's Church, Port Royal, and Grace Church, St. Mary's Parish, Caroline County—William Friend, Rector.—Communicants, added, 2—died, 1—total, 35; Baptisms, 5; Marriages, 3; Burials, whites, 6—blacks, 5—total, 11.

The Rector reports that the outward condition of the Churches under his charge is flourishing—that there are some indications of an awakening interest in the concerns of religion—but that the evidences are too apparent that the word preached and the ordinances of religion have brought forth no fruit to perfection, and that the Churches, spiritually considered, if not retrograding, are standing still.

St. Andrew's Parish, Brunswick County, and Bath Parish, Dinwiddie County—John Grammer, Rector.—Communicants, added, white, 10—colored, 1—removed into the parish, 2—removed out of the parish, 3—died, 1—whole number, 58; Baptisms, children, white, 9—colored, 2—total, 11; Confirmed, white, 8; Marriages, 2; Funerals, white, 7—colored, 11—total, 18.

Trinity Church, Staunton, Augusta Parish, Augusta County—Frederick D. Goodwin, Rector.—Communicants, added, 1—removed, 4—died, 1—total, (so far as known) 51; Baptisms, infants, white, 3—colored, 4—total, 7; Marriages, colored, 2; Funerals, 2.

There being no register found in the Parish, the Rector is unable to report with certainty the number of communicants, or any changes which might have taken place, or official duties which might have been performed previous to October last, when he took charge of the Parish. Number of families not known, supposed to be about 40. There are two Bible Classes containing about 25 members. Sunday School teachers, 12—scholars, 80.

St. John's Church, Henrico Parish—William H. Hart, Rector.—The condition of this Church is much the same as at the last report. The Rector can only say that the congregation appears to be gradually increasing in numbers.

Hungar's Parish, Eastville, Northampton County—Wm. G. Jackson, Rector.—Communicants, added, 4—died, 2—total, 40; Confirmations, 4; Baptisms, white, 7—colored, 11—total, 18; Marriage, 1; Funerals, 8; number of families, about 35—adults, 130—infants, 80; amount collected for institutions connected with the Church, \$251.

A Bible Class has been established which promises to be useful. The increase of the congregation and a cheerfulness in contributing to the repairing and beautifying the Church edifices, together with other minor circumstances, has tended to encourage the heart of the Pastor.

In the months of August and September last, I performed Missionary duty in Augusta Parish. In this Parish I baptised 15 white children and solemnized 1 marriage.

Christ Church, Winchester—J. E. Jackson, Rector.—Communicants, added, 6—removed, 2—suspended, 2—died, 4—total, 94; Baptisms, infants, white, 11; Marriages, 4; Funerals, 12.

The Rector mourns over the spiritual dearth in his Parish, though he fondly hopes that he discerns some symptoms of the quickening influences of the Holy Spirit.

The benevolent Societies have been supported with increased attention during the past year; the Sunday Schools are upon the whole rather improved; but the Bible Classes have been too much neglected by those for whose benefit they are designed; the attendance of the congregation has somewhat increased, and the Vestry are now erecting a parsonage house upon the lot adjoining the Church.

Wickliffe Parish—William M. Jackson, Rector.—Baptisms, 23; Marriages, 2; Communicants, 45; contributions to benevolent objects, \$160.

St. Thomas' Church, Orange—W. G. H. Jones, Rector.—Marriages, 4; Infant Baptisms, 7; Funerals, 8, of which 6 were of white persons and 2 of colored; Communicants, about 40; contributions to various objects, about \$300.

Walker's Church, Albemarle.—Communicants, about 20; contributions, about \$75.

St. Paul's Church, Alexandria—J. T. Johnston, Rector.—Communicants, added, 8—2 from other denominations—removed, 3—died, 3—total, 130; Baptisms, adult, 1 white—infants, 33, viz: white, 29—colored, 4—total, 34; Confirmations, 4; Marriages, 6; Funerals, 12; amount collected for the different institutions connected with the Church, about \$700; 2 Sunday Schools—Male, 1 superintendent, 8 teachers, 71 scholars—Female, 1 superintendent, 15 teachers, 140 scholars—total, 211.

Hamilton and Leeds Parishes, Fauquier—George Lemmon, Rector.—The Rector reports that he has reason to hope that the cause of religion and the Church has been increasing in strength in Hamilton Parish, particularly within the last six months. During that period, the congregation of Warrenton has been not only, as usual, a good one in point of numbers, but marked with indications of a deeper spirit of seriousness than had characterized it for a considerable period before.

The Sunday School of Warrenton has increased in number and evidences of usefulness, and the Temperance Society has been much prospered within the last twelve months.

The congregation of Leeds Parish continues to give a steady attendance on the services of the sanctuary.

Communicants of Hamilton Parish, about 50—added, 4—removed, 1; Baptisms, 7; Marriages, 10; Funerals, 7; contingent fund, \$15—Bishop's do. \$6—\$21.

Communicants of Leeds Parish, about 25; Marriages, 2; Baptisms, 4; Funerals, none; contingent fund, \$15—Bishop's do. \$6—\$21.

Contributions to the Education Society, \$18; general Missionary Society, \$30.

Falls' Church, Fairfax County—Edward R. Lippitt, Minister.—Communicants, 7; Funerals, 2.

There is connected with this Church an interesting and flourishing Sunday School, of about 100 scholars, under the instruction of 6 male and 4 female teachers. There is also a Bible Class of much promise, conducted by one of the students of the Seminary, the average attendance on which is about 30.

During the past year, more than \$100 were raised by the ladies of this congregation and those belonging to the Methodist societies of the neighborhood, for the benefit of the Mission of our Church, established at Cape Palmas, Africa.

Measures are in progress, which, it is hoped, will result in realizing funds sufficient to put in complete repair, during the coming summer, the venerable edifice belonging to this congregation.

The Minister, by invitation of the Vestry, has regularly officiated, once in two weeks, in this Church, since April, 1836, to attentive and increasing congregations; the intermediate Sundays being given to the congregations at Lebanon and the Seminary.

Christ Church, Lancaster—F. H. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, removed, 4—died, 4—total, 30; Baptisms, by Rev. Mr. Adams, 15 infants, white, 9—colored, 6; Marriages, 1 by Rev. Mr. Adams, and 1 by the Rector—total, 2; Funerals, 4; amount collected for the different institutions connected with the Church, \$95 75.

The Rector took charge of this Parish in October last. The repair of Christ Church will be commenced, it is expected, within a few weeks; and that also of Wicomico Church, in an adjoining Parish, it is hoped, ere long.

Our services have been extended to the bordering counties with an encouraging prospect of usefulness.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, 153;

Baptisms, 14; Marriages, 4; Funerals, 13; number of families, 106; amount contributed for religious objects, about \$800.

During the past year no very marked indications of religious sensibility have appeared in this congregation. There is every thing however to encourage, in a full and punctual attendance on the services of the sanctuary. We are unable to accommodate many in their applications for pews.

The Missionary cause is regarded with peculiar solicitude. Our communion has supplied the Mission to Cape Palmas, Western Africa, with a devoted Missionary, and given effectual aid to the same in their sympathy with the enterprise and its agent. With others equally devoted, Mr. Minor sailed within a day or two past for his destination.

Our Sunday Schools are generally conducted with a proper sense of their useful tendency and influence.

St. Ann's and South Farnham Parishes, Essex county—John P. McGuire, Rector.

St. Ann's.—Communicants, added, 5—died, 2—present total, 37; Baptisms, 4; Marriages, 6; Funerals, 9.

South Farnham.—Communicants, added, 1—died, 1—present total, 30; Baptisms, white, 1—colored, 3; Marriages, 1 white, 2 colored; Funeral, 1.

The condition of these Parishes is much the same as when last reported. This is the case with the general attendance and appearance of the congregations, the number of children enjoying the benefit of Sunday School and Bible Class instruction, and the amount contributed to religious and benevolent purposes. In other respects, if there is any change, it is an unfavorable one.

Kanawha Parish—John Martin, Minister.—Communicants, added, 5—removed, 3—total, 19; Baptisms, 3 adults—5 infants; Marriages, 9; Funerals, 10.

The Church in Charleston, mentioned in last report, has been finished and occupied since December. The cost of the edifice was about \$4000; about \$500 are still owing. The Sunday School is not very flourishing; it numbers about 30 scholars and 7 teachers. The attendance on public worship is good and appears to be increasing; great unity and peace prevail among us.

St. Mark's Parish, Kanawha county.—Communicants, added, 1—removed, 2—whole number, 12; Baptisms, infants, 7; Marriage, 1; Funerals, 2.

Congregations are at present large and attentive. This Parish is much in need of a separate Minister, for whose support a comfortable provision is making. Sunday School embraces about 20 scholars and 6 teachers; Missionary Collections about \$20.

Church in Charlottesville, Albemarle county—Richard K. Meade, Rector.—Communicants, added, 2—removed, 4—died, 2—suspended, 1—total, 38; Baptisms, adults, 2—infants, 1—total, 3; Confirmations, 11; Marriages, 2; Funerals, 7; number of families, 30; amount collected for different institutions connected with the Church, \$425 09.

To this statement the Rector would add, that during the past year additions have been made to the Church edifice, both within and without, amounting in value to more than \$1000. A large and valuable bell has been purchased—a tower of good dimensions has been raised for its support, and within this tower a vestry room will soon be in readiness for use.

Lunenburg and North Farnham Parishes, Richmond county, and Cople Parish, Westmoreland county—G. W. Nelson, Rector.—Communicants, added, 2—colored, 1—died, 2—removed, 4—total, 39; Baptisms, 9—adults, 3; Marriage, 1; Funerals, 6.

Westover Parish, Charles City county—Alexander Norris, Rector.—Communicants, 19—died, 1—added, by removal into the Parish, 1; Baptisms, infants, white, 10—colored, 2—total, 12; Funerals, 18; Marriage, 1.

The statistics of this Parish, as to the number of families, adults and children, remain about the same as they were last year. The routine of my official appointments has also been nearly the same.

We have paid off a debt which was due for the building of our lower Church, in doing which, it is just to acknowledge, that we have been assisted by the kindness and liberality of some of our friends in Norfolk and Richmond, to the amount of \$160.

Amounts collected for benevolent institutions and remitted through my hands: for the Education Society, \$16; contingent fund of the Convention, \$13 17; Bishop's fund, \$4 88; Bible Society, \$2; total, \$35 05.

Church in Cabin Point, Surry county—Robert E. Northam, Minister.—Communicants, added, 1—removed, 1—total, 2; Baptisms, white, 2; Marriages, 3; Funerals, 22; number of Episcopal families, 6.

The Minister took charge of this Church the last of December, 1836, and has labored since then under very many difficulties in endeavoring to raise it from its dilapidated condition. He has preached regularly twice on every other Sunday, in the afternoon either to the colored persons, or fulfilled some appointment in the neighborhood; he has also a Sunday School, with 4 or 5 teachers and about 20 scholars; and a weekly lecture on Wednesday evening. It would be impossible to mention the number of families attending the Church, as the congregations vary from 20 or 30 to 200 individuals. Though the Minister has greatly felt the want of some pious persons of his own Church, immediately near him, to uphold his hands by their prayers and active exertions, he would mention, with pleasure, that he has received many kindnesses and very much aid from the gentleman and lady with whom he resides, both of whom are members of the Presbyterian Church, but anxious for the multiplying of Christians, without regard to name.

Merchants' Hope Church, Martin's Brandon parish, Prince George.—Communicants, 7; Baptisms, white, 1—colored, 2—total, 3; Marriages, 3; Funeral, 1.

The Minister took charge of this Church the first of January, 1837. Since then a Vestry has been formed, and a subscription of about \$150 made for the repairs of the Church building. There is regular preaching here, as at Cabin Point, twice on every other Sunday; in the afternoon, either to the colored persons at the Church, or to some congregation in the neighborhood.

The friends of the Church in this County are few and scattered far apart; but have been untiring in their exertions to have the old walls of Merchants' Hope, after a melancholy silence of about 40 years, once more resound with the voices of those who love to worship God after the manner of their forefathers.

Lexington Parish, Amherst county, and Nelson Parish, Nelson county—Charles H. Page, Rector.—Communicants, added, 4—removed, 2—died, 3—suspended, 2—total, 55; Baptisms, 6 whites—3 colored, all infants; Confirmations, 2; Marriages, 4; Funerals, 6; contributions to religious institutions, about \$100.

The house of God is generally well attended upon the Sabbath. The members of the Church are walking consistently, and some of them zealous to promote the glory of God and the best interests of mankind. Catechetical instruction is practiced in three of the Churches.

May the influence of the Holy Ghost be vouchsafed, abundantly, to the Church.

Christ Church, Norfolk—M. P. Parks, Rector.—Communicants, added, 35—removed, 6—died, 2—total, 251; Baptisms, adults, 3—infants, 17—total, 20; Confirmations, 19; Marriages, 11; Funerals, 27. The present Rector has not had opportunity for ascertaining the number of families under his pastoral charge, nor the proportion of adults to infants. Amount collected for the different institutions of the Church, \$1272.

The Rector records with thankfulness, that having the pastoral charge of a large and flourishing congregation, made ready for him, by the labors of his predecessors, it is still flourishing to an encouraging extent. It is regretted that nothing has been done for the spiritual improvement of the colored persons, belonging to the families of the congregation. A house of worship was provided, and arrangements made for affording them the means of grace, in connection with the Church, about the time that the Rector was called upon to relinquish his valuable and highly esteemed Assistant, at the request of the Vestry of St. Paul's Church, Norfolk; since which time, we have been unable to prosecute the plan formed for their spiritual improvement.

West Russel Parish, Bedford county—Nelson Sale, Minister.—Communicants, added, 5—total, 29; Baptisms, adults, 3—infants, 6 white—total, 9; Confirmations, 3; Marriages, 5; Funerals, 4.

In this Parish, one congregation has had the benefits of divine service twice a month during summer; only once a month during winter. Two other congregations have had regular monthly services, and a fourth has been supplied during the summer and fall. The services are tolerably well attended. Amid many discouragements there is some cause for gratitude. As prospects are no better, we rejoice that they are no worse.

The Minister continues to give a monthly service to good congregations in Amherst; in which there are 24 Communicants, 2 of whom have been added; Baptisms, white, 2—colored, 2 infants—total, 4; Confirmations, 2; Funerals, 4.

A new Church edifice is about being put under contract; it is confidently hoped it will be completed by the fall; about \$1000 have been subscribed towards it. The services here are well attended and attentively *heard*, but comparatively few unite in them.

St. James' and Haymarket Parishes—William Scull, Rector.—The Rector reports, that he became the Minister of these Parishes in February. Public worship is well attended. In St. James Parish, a Sunday School has been re-organized; and at Haymarket, arrangements have been made for the operations of another.

Recently an effort has been made at Brentsville for the erection of a new house of worship; it will, in all probability, be successful. 1 member has been added to the Church, and 16 infants have been baptized—14 of them were colored.

Collection, at Brentsville, \$17 36; at Haymarket, \$3 85; total, \$21 21.

St. Paul's Church, Lynchburg—F. G. Smith, Minister.—Communicants, removed, 19—added, 6—present number, 52; Baptisms, of infants, 4; Marriages, 2; Funerals, 3.

Collection for the Virginia Prayer Book Society, \$14 25; collection for the Colonization Society, \$125; contribution of the Sewing Society to the Society for the education of pious young men for the ministry, \$90; annual amount of the "Church offerings," about \$60.

Christ Church, Newport Parish, Isle of Wight county—Thomas Smith, Rector.—Communicants, added, 10—removed, 4—died, 4—total, 18; Baptisms, adult, white, 1—infants, white, 3—colored, 7—total, 11; Confirmations, 2; Funerals, 12.

Sabbath School, 15 teachers; nothing but the Catechism taught. Such of the School as choose, attend the Rector's study on Saturday morning, to study the lesson of the succeeding Sabbath; about 16 attend. The class is both interesting and improving. Library, 142 vols. Parish Library, about 90 volumes.

Contributions to the Bible cause, \$41; to Missions to Greece, (of which \$5 was by Sunday School) \$10; to African Mission, (of which \$12 75 was by Sunday School) \$62—total, \$113.

Religion and the Church may be said, with propriety and gratitude, to be on the advance amongst us.

Cabin Point.—Burials, 12 colored—1 white—total, 13; Marriages, 3. This station, since November, has been under the pastoral care of Rev. Mr. Northam.

Chuckatuck.—1 Communicant. Commenced services at this Church first last January, under tolerably favorable circumstances. A Vestry has been elected. Congregations are not large.

Brick Church, near Smithfield—A venerable relic of antiquity; the oldest building of any kind, possibly, on the continent. Congregations small; prospects gloomy; services regular once a month since the first of the year.

Lower Surry.—Communicants, added, 2—total, 5; Baptism, 1 white infant. Commenced regular monthly services here in January.

St. James' Parish, Mecklenburg county—William Steel, Rector.—Communicants, added, 10—removed, 4—died, 2—total, 40; Baptisms, 15; Confirmations, 5; Marriages, 12; Funerals, 20.

At no time since my residence in the Parish has there been a more general attendance on

our ministrations. The Prayer Book is more used in our congregations, and the prospect of usefulness increases.

Cornwall Parish, Charlotte county.—We have erected a substantial, neat and convenient Church, called Roanoke Church. Large congregations attend our services. Communicants, added, 3—whole number, 7; Confirmations, 4. A Vestry has been elected, and the Church was consecrated to the worship of Almighty God, on Thursday, the 4th inst., by Bishop Meade.

Frederick Parish, Millwood, Clarke county.—Horace Stringfellow, Rector.—Communicants, added, 6—removed, 3—died, 3—total, 60; Baptisms, infants, white, 7; Confirmations, 6; Marriages, 5; Funerals, 5; number of families, about 40; amount contributed to the different institutions of the Church, \$900.

In addition to the regular services of the Church, we have a weekly Bible Class, a Sunday School of about 30 scholars, and services in the Church on Sunday afternoon for the colored people, and on Wednesday afternoon for the congregation, when the length of the day will justify them. Increased attendance gives great encouragement.

Bristol Parish, Petersburg.—Andrew Syme, Rector.—Little has occurred of consequence since last Convention. The number of Communicants is about 75; Marriages, 8; Baptisms, 20; Funerals, 7. The Sunday School, under able teachers, is very prosperous. Few additions have been made to the Church since last Convention.

Trinity Church, Bowling Green.—William N. Ward, Rector.—Communicants, removed, 3—remaining, 4.

Emigration to the West and South has greatly diminished, if not entirely destroyed, the prospects of forming a congregation here. There are now only two small families decidedly attached to the Church.

St. Margaret's Parish, Caroline county.—Communicants, 22; Baptisms, 4 infants; 1 Marriage.

The prospects of this congregation are by no means encouraging, and the Rector is pained to see so little fruit from his labor.

St. John's Church, Berkeley Parish, Spottsylvania county.—Communicants, added, 8—total, 22; Baptism, 1 adult; Funerals, 3—1 white, 2 colored; Marriages, 2.

Though the Divine blessing has not been given us in all its fulness during the past year, we have cause to be grateful. The congregation has been gradually increasing; there is a growing attachment to the services of the Church; a few have taken up "the cross," and others are inquiring "the way."

The Rector of the above Parishes has likewise preached, regularly, once in the month, at Concord Academy, under the management of the Messrs. Coleman, to an interesting community of youth.

Botetourt Parish, Botetourt county.—D. M. Wharton, Rector.—Communicants, added, 9, (6 of whom were from other Parishes)—removed, 2—died, 1—total, 26; Baptisms, infants, white, 2; Confirmations, 3; Marriages, 2; Funerals, 2; number of families, about 15.

While the same insensibility to religious subjects, noticed in the last report from this Parish, still exists among the mass of the people, it is matter of thankfulness with the Rector, that he is enabled to express the belief, that our Church stands upon better and higher ground, in the estimation of the public, generally, than it has done at any previous time. The conduct of the members of her communion is, for the most part, consistent. They are regular and devout in their attendance on the sanctuary.

As early as the last Convention we had obtained a subscription to the amount of \$2300 or \$2400, for the erection of a Church, which we then hoped would be finished by this time. But owing to some difficulty in procuring a suitable site, our expectations have been delayed. The cause of delay is now removed and the work is begun.

Trinity Church, Portsmouth Parish.—J. W. Wingfield, Rector.—Marriages, 6; Baptisms, all white infants, 4; Communicants, 1 dead—4 removed—5 added—present number,

40; Burials, 11; number of families, about 60. Collections, by weekly offerings and otherwise, for Diocesan Missions, \$20; for Domestic Missions, \$50; for African Mission, \$45 25; for Colonization Society, (on 4th of July) \$12 25—total, \$127 50.

As to any thing further, the Rector has nothing favorable to report.

Since the month of November last, the Rector of this Parish has preached regularly one Sunday in the month in the town of Suffolk, in the Parish of St. Paul's, Nansemond county; but has discovered nothing, as yet, encouraging in that new field of his labors. He has administered the communion twice, and believes the number of communicants to be about 10 or 12.

Christ Church, Richmond—George Woodbridge, Rector.—Communicants, joined, 1—removed, 6—withdrawn, 2—died, 1—total, 90; Baptisms, adult, 1—infants, 10—total, 11; Marriages, 2; Funerals, 20.

The congregation has, during the last year, contributed about \$1100 to the various benevolent objects connected with the Church or recommended by the Convention. The weekly offerings have, during the last year, amounted to \$120. The Ladies' Sewing Society in Richmond have made about \$170, which they have applied to the Missionary Society and the Sunday School. The Sewing Society of Manchester, which numbers but four or five young ladies, have made, during the last year, \$75, to constitute a scholarship for the Education Society. The Rector cannot but express his grateful acknowledgments to the ladies of his congregation for their active and unwearied exertions in doing good.

St. Mark's Parish, Culpeper county—John W. Woodville, Minister.—Communicants, added, 1—removed, 8—present number, 20; Baptisms, white infants, 3; Confirmed, 1; Marriages, 9; Funerals, 14; number of families, 23—adults, 75—infants, 51.

No material change has taken place in the spiritual condition of the several congregations in this Parish since the last Convention.

The Rev. George Woodbridge offered sundry resolutions, which were adopted, as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That the members of this Convention still hold in high and sacred esteem the Bible cause, and regard the universal distribution of the Holy Scriptures as one of the leading and most prominent means of evangelizing the world.

2. *Resolved*, That the success which has hitherto attended the efforts of the Virginia Bible Society, the American Bible Society, and the several State Societies, auxiliary thereto, in furnishing the Bible to the destitute poor of our own land, and the benighted subjects of foreign governments, is, and ought to be, a subject of most devout thanksgiving to Almighty God.

The Rev. Wm. G. Jackson presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas the Rev. Wm. M. Atkinson, the late General Agent of the Virginia Bible Society, has resigned into other hands the important business of this most valuable institution:

Resolved, That this Convention do entertain the highest personal regard for the Rev. Mr. Atkinson, and that they do tender the most cordial respect and warmest feeling of affection to the late General Agent of the Virginia Bible Society.

Resolved, That he merits, and does, hereby, receive, the thanks of this body, for his late most efficient labors of love.

Leave was granted to the Committee on the State of the Church to sit during the session of the Convention.

Leave of absence was granted to Lewis Rawlings, Esq., a Lay Delegate from St. John's Church, Berkeley Parish.

Mallory Todd, Esq. was appointed a member of the Committee on the Episcopal Fund, in the place of Hodijah Meade, Esq. to whom leave of absence has been granted.

Mr. Macfarland, from the special Committee, appointed yesterday for that purpose, reported a 7th Canon, which was read, section by section, discussed, amended, and finally adopted.

On motion, the further consideration of the revised Canons was postponed until the next Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Wilmer submitted the following, which was read and accepted:

Whereas, there is at present no institution of learning under the care of the Episcopal Church in this Diocese, and whereas, the sons of our Episcopal families are too often entrusted to local and irresponsible schools, which are either sectarian in their character, or totally unorganized and desultory in their operations,—Therefore,

Resolved, That it is highly essential to the interests of this Diocese, that one or more institutions be established within its precincts of an Episcopal character.

Resolved, That a Committee of five individuals, friendly to this object, be appointed by this Convention, whose duty it shall be to devise and mature the best means for carrying the object of this resolution into effect—the result of their proceedings to be reported to the ensuing Convention of this Diocese.

On the above resolutions, the following Committee was appointed, viz: Rev. J. P. B. Wilmer, Rev. W. G. H. Jones, Gen. Cocke, Tucker Coles and Carter H. Harrison, Esq's.

The Rev. Mr. Grammer made the following report, which was read and approved:

The Committee to which was referred the subject of provision for the Episcopate, have had the same under consideration, and recommend to the Convention the adoption of the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That in place of the present appropriation to the Bishop of the Diocese, the interest of the Episcopal Fund be hereafter, annually, paid to him; and if, at any time, the annual interest of that Fund should fall short of \$300, that the deficiency shall be made up to the said Bishop out of the contingent funds of the Church. And

Resolved, That in addition to the present appropriation to the Assistant Bishop of this Diocese of the sum of \$300 per annum, the present amount of the late assessment on the Parishes, shall be paid to the said Assistant Bishop, securing to him the sum of \$600, annually, to be computed from the 1st day of November last. And

Resolved, That inasmuch as the Bishop of the Diocese deems the interest of the Episcopal Fund, at this time, sufficient to satisfy the purpose of its creation; that, therefore, the resolution passed in Convention in May, 1818, in reference to this Fund, be, and the same is, hereby rescinded.

Resolved, That the Rt. Rev. Bishops be requested to appoint a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer.

The following gentlemen were elected by ballot members of the Standing Committee—Rev. Mr. Norwood, Rev. Mr. Dresser, Rev. Mr. Wingfield, Messrs. Macfarland, Burwell and Fountaine.

Leave of absence was granted to C. H. Harrison, a Lay Delegate from Christ Church, St. Ann's Parish, Albemarle.

And then the Convention adjourned till half past 4 o'clock, P. M.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

The Rev. Mr. Andrews offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Rt. Rev. Bishops of the Diocese be respectfully requested to prepare and present to the next Convention their views as to the most expedient method of prosecuting and sustaining the benevolent institutions of the age.

The following report was received and accepted:

Theological Seminary of Virginia, in account with John Gray, their Treasurer.

1836.	Dr.	
June 22—	To cash paid Rev. Charles Mann, the Agent, travelling expenses,	\$31 50
" "	" To cash invested in a bond,	50 00
" 24—	To do. do. do.	2,800 00
July 3—	To cash paid Mrs. Ann C. Lewis 12 months' interest on her donation,	60 00
" 10—	To cash paid premium of insurance on buildings,	87 50
" 15—	To cash paid Rev. Reuel Keith, quarter's salary,	250 00
" "	To do. do. do. his bill for enclosing his lot,	38 86
" "	To do. Rev. Messrs. John P. and Edward C. McGuire's expenses attending a meeting of the Trustees,	21 75
" "	To cash paid the late Mrs. Jacobs' salary,	50 00
" "	To do. Librarian his salary,	25 00
Oct. 19—	To do. Rev. Reuel Keith's quarter's salary,	250 00
" "	To do. Rev. Charles Mann's travelling expenses, house rent and quarter's salary,	375 44
" "	To cash invested in a bond,	400 00
1837.		
Jan'y 11—	To cash paid Rev. Reuel Keith's quarter's salary,	250 00
" 23—	To do. Rev. J. Packard's do. do.	200 00
Feb. 15—	To do. for books for the Seminary,	65 00
" 23—	To do. Rev. Charles Mann's quarter's salary,	250 00
April 1—	To do. Rev. Reuel Keith's do. do.	250 00
" 11—	To do. Rev. J. Packard's do. do.	200 00
" 25—	To sundry bills for stores, &c. &c.	110 06
May 10—	Postages to this date,	4 25
		<hr/> \$5,769 36 <hr/>

1836.	Cr.	
May 10—	By balance in my hands, per last account,	\$460 72
June 21—	By sundries per acknowledgment in the Churchman of this date,	2,457 10
July 15—	By interest on the vested fund for 6 months,	663 00
" "	By 2 dividends on 16 shares in the Bank of Alexandria, standing in the name of the Church Wardens of Christ Church,	34 00
Oct. 24—	By sundries per acknowledgment in the Churchman,	837 00
1837.		
Jan'y 15—	By 6 months' interest on the vested fund,	747 00
May 3—	By sundries per acknowledgment in the Churchman and Recorder,	301 50
" "	By 6 months' interest on the bond of \$400,	12 00
" 10—	By my own 5th and last instalment of the subscription at Alexandria,	100 00
" "	By balance due John Gray at this date,	157 04
		<hr/> \$5,769 36 <hr/>

E. E.

JOHN GRAY.

The Rev. Mr. Norwood, Rev. Mr. Wingfield, Rev. Mr. Dresser, Col. Fontaine, Col. Burwell, and W. H. Macfarland, Esq. resigned as members of the Standing Committee,—Whereupon

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Standing Committee for the ensuing year:—The Rev. Reuel Keith, D. D., Rev. Charles B. Dana, Rev. Edward R. Lippitt, Edmund I. Lee and John Hooff, Esq'rs, and Doct. Orlando Fairfax.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Executive Committee of the Missionary Society:—Mr. Hilary Baker, Secretary, Mr. Geo. M. Carrington, Treasurer, Rev. Edward C. McGuire, Rev. Nicholas H. Cobbs, Rev. John Grammer, Rev. George Woodbridge, Rev. William H. Hart, Rev. William Norwood, Rev. William G. H. Jones, Mr. Joseph Gill and Mr. Orrin Williams.

A letter from the Rev. Henry Anthon, Secretary of the General Convention, was submitted, containing an application for the payment of \$34, stated

to be the quota due from this Diocese for contingent expenses of the General Convention for the year 1836, and referring to the following

"CANON.

"Of Defraying the Expenses of the General Convention, (substituted for the 54th Canon of 1832.)

"Sect. 1. In order that the contingent expenses of the General Convention may be defrayed, it shall be the duty of the several Diocesan Conventions to forward to the Secretary of the last House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, at each annual meeting of said Convention, fifty cents per annum for each Clergyman within the respective Dioceses.

"Sect. 2. The 54th Canon of 1832 is hereby repealed." Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Rt. Rev. Bishop Moore and the Secretary of this Convention be a Committee to examine and ascertain what amount is due from this Convention to the General Convention and to direct the Treasurer to pay the same.

Resolved, That the Rev. George Woodbridge, Col. Geo. M. Carrington and Mr. Hilary Baker be a Committee to raise by assessment among the different Parishes, having reference to the number of communicants reported to the Convention, the sum of three hundred dollars, to be paid to the Assistant Bishop at the next Convention on account of his Episcopal services, and that the said Committee inform the Clergyman of each Parish of the proportion required from his Parish. And

Resolved, That the Clergy be required to raise the sum so assessed and pay it in at the next Convention.*

The Secretary reported having received during this Convention the following contributions to the contingent fund and to the fund for Episcopal services, viz:

	<i>Contingent Fund.</i>	<i>Bishop's Fund.</i>
North Farnham Parish, Richmond, - - - - -	\$5 00	
St. Andrew's Parish, Brunswick, - - - - -	15 00	\$5 00
St Paul's Church, Lynchburg, - - - - -	15 00	10 00
Cumberland Parish, Lunenburg, - - - - -	15 00	5 00
St. George's Parish, Accomack, - - - - -	10 00	5 00
Botetourt Parish, Botetourt, - - - - -	16 00	8 00
Augusta Parish, Augusta, Trinity Church, Staunton, - - - - -	10 00	5 00
Boyd's Parish, Augusta, - - - - -	5 00	
Martin's Brandon Parish, Prince George, - - - - -	1 00	1 00
Raleigh Parish, Amelia, and Dale Parish, Chesterfield, - - - - -	35 00	5 50
Frederick Parish, Clarke, - - - - -	15 00	12 00
Christ Church, Norfolk, - - - - -	30 00	30 00
Bristol Parish, Petersburg, - - - - -	20 00	12 50
Lexington Parish, Amherst, - - - - -	14 00	
St. Paul's Church, Norfolk, - - - - -	10 00	5 00
Trinity Church, Russel Parish, - - - - -	30 00	
St. Peter's Church, Port Royal, - - - - -	10 00	6 50
St. John's Church, Berkeley, - - - - -	3 00	2 00
St. James' Parish, Mecklenburg, - - - - -	12 00	8 00
St. Margaret's Parish, Caroline, - - - - -	4 75	2 00
Fredericksville Parish, Albemarle, - - - - -	14 68	5 32
Hungar's Parish, Northampton, - - - - -	15 00	8 00
Abingdon and Ware Parishes, Gloucester, - - - - -	11 00	
Trinity Church, Portsmouth Parish, - - - - -	12 00	6 00
St. Martin's Parish, Hanover, - - - - -	20 00	10 00
Monumental Church, Richmond, - - - - -	30 00	

Amount carried forward,

\$328 43

\$151 92

* The quota required to be raised by this resolution will call for twelve and half cents for each communicant.

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	<i>Contingent Fund.</i>	<i>Bishop's Fund.</i>
	\$328 43	\$151 92
Christ Church, Richmond,	30 00	
Elizabeth City Parish,	4 00	2 00
Lunenburg Parish, Richmond,	7 50	2 50
St. Ann's Parish, Albemarle,	5 00	5 00
Grace Church, St. Mary's Parish, Caroline,	10 00	
South Farnham Parish, Essex,	10 00	2 00
Antrim Parish, Halifax,	24 00	7 00
Camden Parish, Pittsylvania,		4 00
Westover Parish, Charles City,	13 17	4 88
St. Stephen's Church, Culpeper,	10 00	
Wickliffe Parish, Clarke,		7 82
St. Ann's Parish, Essex,	20 00	10 00
Christ Church Parish, Lancaster,	15 80	4 20
West Russel Parish, Bedford,	12 00	5 00
Christ Church, Newport Parish,	5 00	2 25
Roanoke Church, Cornwall Parish, Charlotte,	10 00	
St. Peter's Church, Tillotson Parish, Buckingham,	8 00	5 00
Nelson Parish, Nelson,	10 00	5 00
St. Matthew's Church, Wheeling,	20 00	
St. George's Church, Fredericksburg,	20 00	20 00
St. James' Church, Shelburne Parish, Leesburg,	22 04	10 10
St. Paul's Church, Alexandria,	10 00	10 00
Hamilton Parish, Fauquier,	15 00	6 00
Leed's Parish, Fauquier,	15 00	6 00
Christ Church, Fairfax Parish, Alexandria,	30 00	15 00
Mrs. Cobbs, of Nelson county,	1 00	50
Bath Parish, Dinwiddie,	15 00	5 00
St. James' and Haymarket Parishes, Prince William,	21 25	
Lewis Berkeley, Esq. Aldie, Loudon,	5 00	
Christ Church, Winchester,	20 00	5 00
Mill Creek, (Norborne Parish) Berkeley,	10 00	
St. Thomas' Parish, Orange,	15 00	
Walker's Church, Albemarle,	12 00	
	<u>\$804 19</u>	<u>\$296 07</u>

Bishop Moore having stated to the Convention that the Treasurer, in consequence of his age and infirmities, is desirous to be excused from further service, it was

Resolved, That the resignation of Robert Greenhow, Esq. be accepted and that the thanks of this Convention be presented to him for his long and faithful services as Treasurer.

William H. Hubbard, Esq., of Richmond, was then duly elected Treasurer of the Convention.

The President having Episcopal duties to perform, called the Rev. John Grammer to the chair and withdrew.

The Rev. Mr. Adams, from the Committee on the Episcopal Fund, made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the Episcopal Fund, report as follows:

No account has been received by the Committee from the Trustees of that fund, during the sitting of the Convention.

The following was the state of the Fund at the period of the last Convention:

Stock in the Farmer's Bank of Alexandria, 96 shares,	\$4,800 00
Bank of Alexandria,	1,800 00
Bank of Potomac,	100 00
Balance in hand,	19 00
	<u>\$6,719 00</u>

The Committee recommend to the Convention, that, should any report be sent to the Secretary from the Treasurer or Trustees of this Fund, such report be filed among the papers, and presented to the next Convention.

By order of the Committee,

EPHRAIM ADAMS, *Chairman.*

The Rev. C. W. Andrews presented the following resolutions, which, in consequence of the lateness of the hour, were, on his own motion, laid upon the table:

1. *Resolved*, That the desecration of the Sabbath has become a sin of such magnitude and is so rapidly increasing, as to create just alarm and call for new and vigorous efforts to arrest it.

2. *Resolved*, That as the Christian Church must be the leading instrument in reformation, she is called upon, at this time, solemnly to remonstrate against the profanation of the Sabbath by her members.

3. *Resolved*, That, in the judgment of this Convention, to journey, visit the post office, transact any secular business, or make or receive social visits on the Sabbath, is a violation of that day which we are commanded to keep holy.

4. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of all the members of our communion to exert their influence against that most extensive, systematic, legalized and alarming profanation of the Sabbath, of comparatively recent origin, by steamboats, railroads and canals.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due, and they are hereby tendered to the citizens of Petersburg for their kindness and hospitality to the members of this Convention.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered, through the Rev. Dr. Syme, to the several religious denominations, for the use of their houses of worship, which they kindly offered.

Resolved, That the Treasurer be directed to pay the Secretary's expenses in attending this Convention.

Resolved, That the Treasurer pay the Door Keeper of this Convention seven dollars.

The resolution postponing the further consideration of the revised Canons till the next Convention, was, on motion, reconsidered, and thereupon, the residue of the Canons, as reported by the Committee, were taken up, considered and adopted.

Resolved, That the Secretary have 1800 copies of the Journal published for distribution among the Parishes, appending thereto a full copy of the Revised Constitution and Canons of the Church; and that he have 800 copies of the Constitution and Canons bound up separately for the use of the Parishes.

And then after singing the 133d Psalm, the Convention adjourned.

RICHARD CHANNING MOORE,

President of the Convention.

HILARY BAKER, *Secretary.*

APPENDIX.

REVISED CONSTITUTION

Of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, as finally adopted by the Convention which met in Fredericksburg in May, 1836.

ARTICLE I.

There shall be a Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, on the third Wednesday in May, every year; but the Convention which meets in the year previous to the meeting of the General Convention, may have power to appoint the time and place of meeting for the next annual Session; and in the event of the existence of an epidemic disease or any other good cause, rendering it necessary or expedient to alter the place fixed on for any meeting of the Convention, the Bishop may change the place, or the time, or both, at his discretion.

ARTICLE II.

The Convention shall be composed of the officiating Ministers, who have been regularly and canonically elected in Parishes and Churches, within this State, and within that part of the territory of Columbia, formerly part of this State; Professors of the Theological Seminary of Virginia; Missionaries acting under the authority of the Bishop, and within the Diocese; and of those whom age or infirmity prevents from exercising their clerical functions, who shall be considered members *ex-officio*. No person under ecclesiastical censure or process, shall be entitled to a seat in the Convention. The Convention shall also be composed of lay members, consisting of one delegate from each Parish chosen by the vestry thereof. Every Parish, having more than one officiating minister, who hath been regularly and canonically elected, shall be entitled to send as many lay delegates as it has ministers, and in every case the delegate or delegates shall be communicants in the Church.

ARTICLE III.

Twelve members of the clerical, and twelve of the lay order shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; but a smaller number may adjourn.

ARTICLE IV.

In all matters that shall come before the Convention, the Clergy and Laity shall deliberate in one body; and the concurrence of a majority shall give validity to any measure; but when three members require it, there shall be a vote by orders.

ARTICLE V.

The election of a Bishop of this Church shall be made in Convention in the following manner:—The order of the Clergy shall nominate and appoint by ballot, some fit and qualified Clergyman for that office; and the votes of a majority of that order shall be requisite to constitute a choice; and thereupon, such appointment shall be presented to the order of the Lay Delegates, and be considered by them; and if, on a ballot, it shall appear that the person so nominated is approved of by a majority of the Lay order, he shall be then declared to be duly elected.

ARTICLE VI.

The Bishop shall be President of the Convention; in which character it shall be his duty to give to the Convention, annually, a general view of the state of the Church; to call spe-

cial Conventions, at whatever time and place he shall think necessary, or when required by the Standing Committee; to preserve order during the time of session; to put the question, collect the votes, and declare the decision; and he may deliver his sentiments on any subject after it has been discussed, before a vote thereon.

ARTICLE VII.

In case of a vacancy in the Episcopal Office, the Convention immediately upon their assembling, shall choose, by joint ballot, a President from among the order of Priests, who shall remain in office until the next annual Convention, or until the next election of a President. He shall perform all duties, and possess all the privileges above specified; but he shall not call special meetings of the Convention, unless applied to for that purpose, by a majority of the Standing Committee; and if, while there is a Bishop in this Church, he shall not be present at any meeting of the Convention, they shall elect, in the manner aforesaid, a President *pro tempore*.

ARTICLE VIII.

A Secretary shall be appointed by the Convention, who shall continue in office during good behaviour. His duty shall be to make minutes of their proceedings, to preserve their journals and records, to attest the public acts of the body, and faithfully to deliver into the hands of his successor, all books and papers relative to the concerns of the Convention, which may be in his possession. It shall be his duty to notify, through the channel of the public papers, as he may think proper, the time and place for the meeting of the succeeding Convention. The Secretary shall annex to the Journals of every succeeding Convention, a list of the Clergy, with all alterations therein produced in the preceding year by ordinations, deaths, removals, suspensions, and degradations.

ARTICLE IX.

A Treasurer shall be appointed by the Convention, who shall continue in office during good behaviour, and who shall discharge the duties usually appertaining to that office.

ARTICLE X.

Before the adjournment of each annual Convention, a Standing Committee, consisting of six members, three Clerical and three of the Lay order, who shall be communicants of the Church in the Diocese, shall be chosen by a ballot of the Clergy and Laity.

ARTICLE XI.

Every Parish within this Diocese shall be entitled to the entire benefit of this Convention, as soon as it shall have signified its ratification thereof, either in writing or by sending a Lay Delegate to the Convention; and such Parish shall thereafter be benefitted and bound, equally with the other Parishes in this Diocese, by every rule and canon which shall be framed, by any Convention acting under this Constitution, for the government of this Church in ecclesiastical concerns.

ARTICLE XII.

This Constitution shall be unalterable, except in the following manner:—A proposition for any change shall be introduced in writing and considered in Convention; and, if approved of, the same shall be transmitted to the several Vestries of the Parishes which shall have ratified this Constitution; and, if again approved of in the next ensuing Convention, by a majority, the change shall then take place; and the Constitution, so altered, shall be valid and obligatory.

CANONS ADOPTED BY THE CONVENTIONS OF 1836 AND 1837.

CANON 1st.

Ministers to keep a Register.

The minister of each Parish shall make out and continue an exact register of all the adult members, communicants, baptisms, confirmations, marriages and funerals, within the congregation; which register shall be left, upon his death or removal, for the use of his successor.

CANON 2d.

Ministers to converse with those who apply for Communion.

It shall be the duty of the ministers of our Church, to be careful in observing all the directions of the rubric, and of the General Convention, which relate to communicants; to maintain the most affectionate intercourse with all their members on religious subjects; but especially to converse with those who offer themselves for the first time for the communion, on those qualifications which are proper for the worthy receiving of that sacrament, unless they be otherwise satisfied that they are properly qualified.

CANON 3d.

Communicants to have Family Worship.

It shall be the duty of every communicant of this Church, who is the head of a family, to live in the habitual exercise of family worship.

CANON 4th.

The Members of this Church to instruct their Families in the Principles of Religion.

The members of this Church shall instruct their families, as far as they are able, in the principles of the Christian religion; and as soon as they are sufficiently informed and impressed with the importance and sacredness of their baptismal vows, and have come to a proper age to ratify the same in their own persons, they shall present them to the Bishop for confirmation, when conveniently in their power.

CANON 5th.

The Members of this Church to be Regular in their Attendance on Public Worship.

The members of this Church shall attend the public worship of God as regularly and as constantly, as from their age, infirmities, and circumstances in life, may be reasonably expected; and shall neglect the performance of this important duty for no cause whatever, but such as they might plead at the bar God in the day of judgment.

CANON 6th.

Offenders to be Admonished or Suspended.

Whereas, the present state of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia has experienced many and great inconveniences, from the want of such regulations and provisions as the good and wholesome government of the said Church required, and from the nonperformance of existing canons: now, in order that such inconveniences may be removed so far as lieth in the Convention, and that the rules and canons of the said Church, and also those of the General Convention, may be strictly observed and enforced in all time to come, that all the members of the said Church, whether clergymen or laymen, may be excited to the most zealous and commendable exertions, to further by all justifiable means the future prosperity of the Church:

Be it Ordained, That any member of the Church, being a communicant thereof, conducting him or herself in a manner unworthy of a Christian, may and ought to be admonished or suspended by the minister of the parish or congregation, according to the rubric—and in cases where it may be deemed expedient by the minister, or may be requested by the accused person, the Church Wardens, or either of them, if communicants, shall be summoned to assist the minister in ascertaining the facts of the case: provided, that if such Warden or Wardens shall fail or refuse to act within ten days, the minister shall proceed to act under the rubrics of this Church.

CANON 7th.

Trial of a Clergyman.

1. Whenever the Standing Committee, from their own knowledge, or from information derived from others, shall be of opinion that a Presbyter or Deacon of the Diocese has been guilty of misconduct for which he is liable to be tried under the 37th Canon of the General Convention, it shall be its duty to present the offender to the Bishop, making the presentment in writing, and specifying the charges. But nothing herein contained shall be regarded

as interfering with the duty of the Bishop to institute an inquiry on his own motion, according to the said 37th Canon.

2. A presentment being made, the Bishop shall proceed, from among those entitled to a seat in the Convention, other than the members of the Standing Committee, to designate eight Presbyters, and cause a list of their names and a copy of the presentment to be furnished to the accused, or left at his usual place of abode, if he be not found. Within thirty days thereafter, the accused shall select five of the eight Presbyters, and give notice thereof to the Bishop; and in case of his failure the Bishop shall select five, and in either case the selected Presbyters shall constitute a Council for the trial of the accused.

3. The Council shall hold its session at such time and place as the Bishop may appoint, and shall have power to adjourn from time to time and from place to place within the Diocese. If it fail to meet on the day appointed, it shall stand adjourned to the next day, and from day to day for the space of three days, if it be not sooner formed; and if the whole number do not attend, and it appear likely that a full attendance cannot be had, those of the Council who may be present, being not less than three, shall proceed to trial. The Council shall appoint a President and Secretary, the first from their own body, and the latter from their own body or otherwise; and before proceeding to trial shall ordain and declare the rules by which the trial shall be conducted. It shall cause the oral testimony for and against the accused to be written down by the Secretary and along with the depositions and other evidence read upon the trial to be carefully preserved, and shall cause a record to be kept of its proceedings. Some officer authorized by law to administer oaths, may be called upon by the Council to administer an oath or affirmation to the witnesses; and the trial shall be in public, if desired by the Standing Committee or by the accused.

4. A written notice of the time and place of the meeting of the Council shall be served upon the accused, or left at his usual place of abode, if he be not found, at least thirty days before such meeting; and like notice shall be given to the Standing Committee, who, by their President, or some one whom they may appoint, to perform that office, shall collect and present the evidence in support of the accusation, and otherwise appear in behalf of the prosecution.

5. If the accused do not appear, the Council may proceed to trial, in his absence, or for good cause shewn, may adjourn the trial to another day, and if he refuse or decline to appear, the Council shall report him to the Bishop for contumacy, who thereupon shall pass against him sentence of suspension from the ministry; but such sentence may be reversed by the Bishop, if the accused, within three calendar months, shall report to him that he is prepared to undergo his trial, and shall appear for that end before the Council; and if he do not so report and appear, the Bishop, in view of the charges in the presentment, may pass against him sentence of degradation from the ministry.

6. Upon the application of the Standing Committee, or the accused, to the Bishop, setting forth that the attendance of a material witness cannot be had, he shall appoint a clergyman or layman as a commissioner to take the deposition of such witness; and the party applying shall give to the other party five days' notice of the time and place for taking the deposition. If the party to whom such notice is to be given reside more than forty miles from the place appointed for taking the deposition, an additional day shall be allowed for every twenty miles, exclusive of Sunday. The examination shall be in writing and signed by the witness; and the deposition certified by the commissioner and transmitted under seal to the Council.

7. When the trial shall be gone through, the Council shall declare in a writing to be signed by the several members, or a majority of them, their decision on the charges contained in the presentment, distinctly stating whether they find the accused guilty or not guilty, and shall forward the decision together with the evidence and the record of the proceedings to the Bishop: whereupon, the Bishop shall pronounce such sentence as shall to him appear proper, and such sentence shall be final. But if in the opinion of the Bishop, the accused ought to have a new trial, he shall have power to award it; in which case a new Council shall be convened, before which the proceedings shall be conducted as before provided.

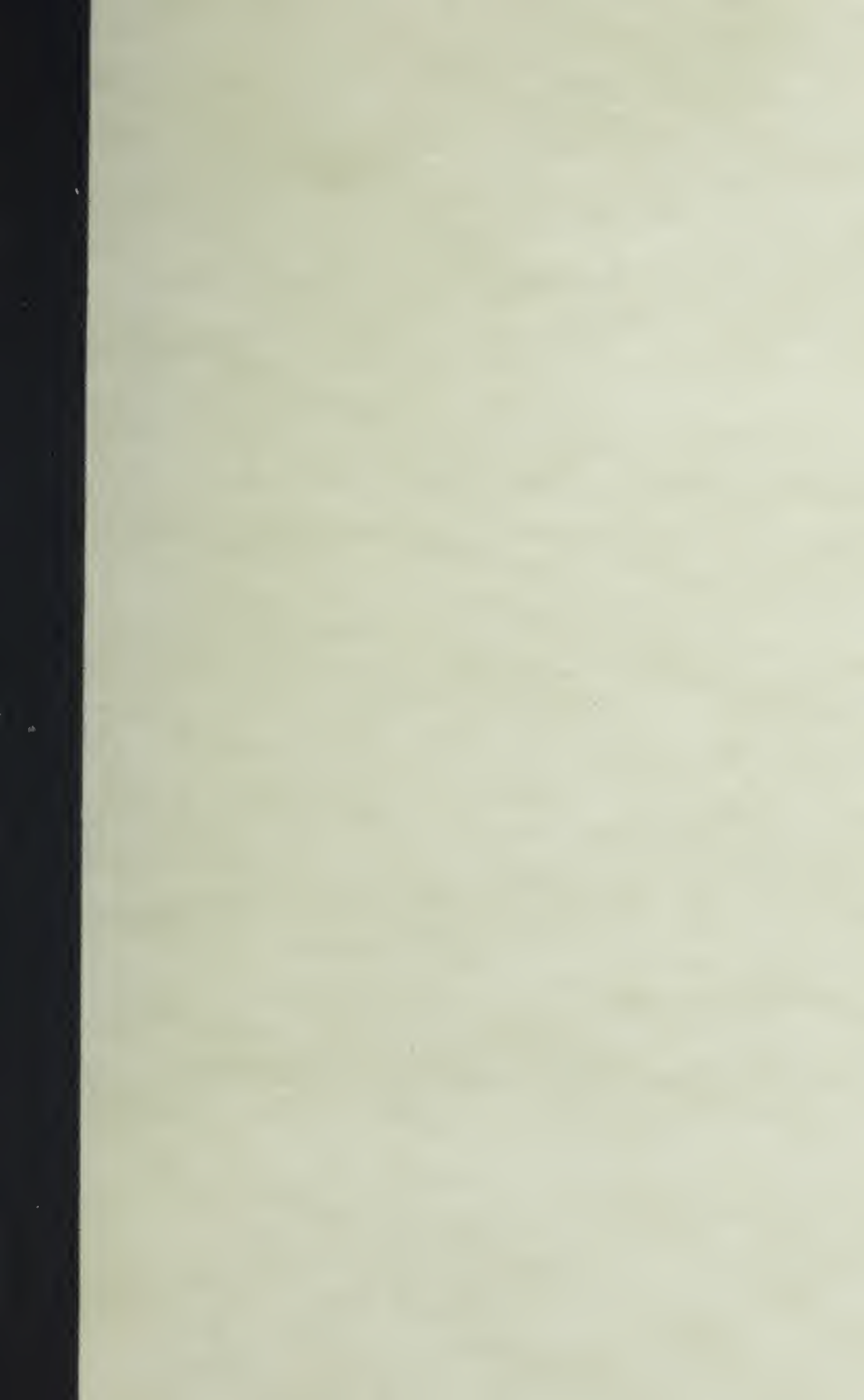
8. If at any time, the accused shall confess the truth of the charges, the Bishop, such confession being made to him, or being certified to him by the Council, shall proceed to pass sentence; and if when put upon his trial before the Council, the accused shall neither admit or deny the charges, he shall be regarded as pleading not guilty.

9. It shall be the duty of the Bishop, to report to the Convention, at its next session after the trial of a Presbyter or Deacon as herein provided, the finding of the Council and his sentence thereupon.

CANON 8th.

Manner of Proceeding against a Bishop.

If the Bishop of this Church shall voluntarily commit any act or acts violating the Constitution or Canons, presentment shall be made, by the Convention, to two or more Bishops



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